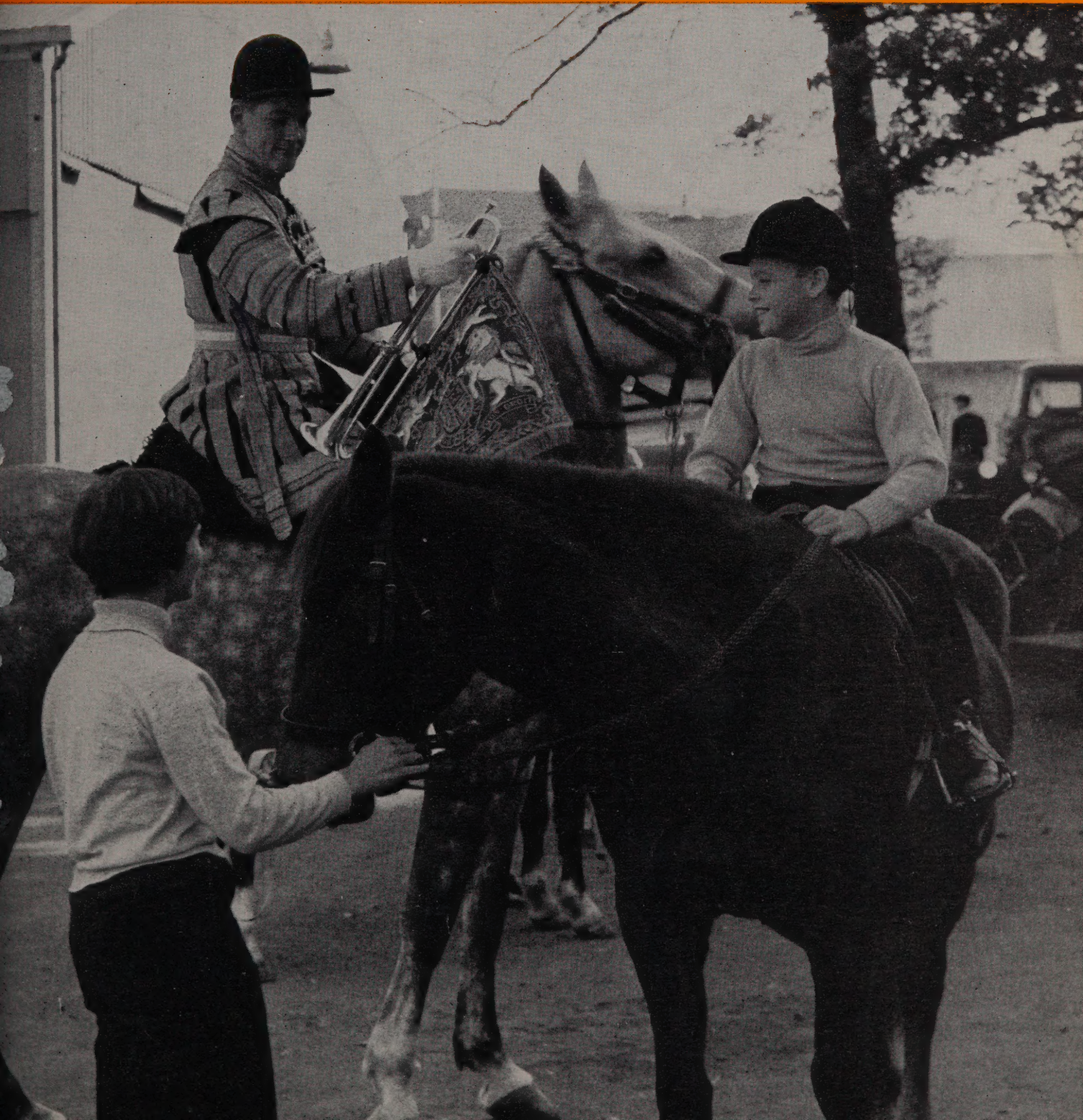


# SPASTICS NEWS

NOVEMBER 1965   PRICE 6d   THE MAGAZINE OF THE SPASTICS SOCIETY







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# SPASTICS NEWS

The magazine of the Spastics Society

November 1965, Vol. XI, No. XI, Price Sixpence. Editor: Eve Renshaw

## IN THIS ISSUE

**Front and Back Cover Pictures:** We celebrate a great "first" with these pictures of the first spastic riders to take part in the Horse of the Year Show at Wembley. Malcolm Heggerty, aged 11, and Susie Burling, 8, were both taught to ride by Miss Saywell at Winford Orthopaedic Hospital, Bristol, and attend Claremont School. They performed in the great arena in very professional style, with other handicapped riders from Chigwell and Farnham. Both children need wheelchairs, but get about famously on four legs as they cannot on two.

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# Why Help Parents?

by Betty Booth, Senior Family Caseworker (Children)

THE SHORT answer is, because they are people and most people need help at certain times but more especially because they have the responsibility of bringing up a handicapped child. No person is ever 'prepared' to become the parent of a spastic child or for that matter any other disability.

Although our first responsibility is to parents, I think we should broaden our area of concern to cover the whole family; not only brothers and sisters but also grandparents, aunts and uncles who often have a quite profound effect on the whole family. In our present day society the family is still the most important unit, and our efforts should be directed towards maintaining and preserving it.

The Society's Social Workers are particularly concerned with the welfare of its families. An indication of the growing need and concern that has developed over the years is reflected in the fact that there are now 19 social workers as against only one seven years ago, dealing directly or in part with children and their families throughout England and Wales. Even so we are thin on the ground and therefore cannot always give the optimum service nor visit as regularly as we would like.

Although we have endeavoured to help parents with day to day problems we know that many parents still feel bewildered by their situation, or blame themselves for not having done enough, or can not accept the diagnosis that has been made, or want to know more about C.P. and what they can do to help their child, and something of what can be expected in the future; that they need time to talk, to meet other parents with similar problems, to know how other families coped with certain difficulties, to feel sure that they have done everything possible, and that everyone concerned with their child knows him at his best. We realise that parents want time to ask all the questions they longed to ask but hesitated because the doctor was 'too busy', 'was not very interested' or the questions may have sounded silly. Parents often say, 'if only we'd had someone to talk to and tell us what to do or where to go in the early years, we might not feel we had failed.'

As part of their search to get the right treatment, education or advice, parents sometimes bring their children to London at considerable cost to the child and themselves,

to see the Assessment Panel. Very often this is a fairly straightforward procedure and it seems reasonable to make a recommendation on the basis of all the information we have at our disposal at that time. However, it is not always quite so straightforward because the child is unable to give a clear picture of himself or his parents are too worried and upset to take in the whole situation.

So to meet the needs of children who require a longer period of assessment and whose parents had received no help previously or had been unable to use what was available, a series of residential assessment courses were arranged at Bexhill. The S.O.S. generously agreed to our using Colwall Court where the courses were held during the months February to April last year.

As you can imagine it was extremely difficult to select families from the hundreds known to the Social Workers therefore preference had to be given to the very young children who were awaiting assessment and to those families particularly in need.

The objectives of the course were to advise and help parents with the practical management of their child, to assess the child's intellectual ability to give expert advice on his condition, prognosis and treatment and, perhaps most important of all, to give the parents opportunities to discuss their previously unexpressed doubts, fears and hopes.

In every instance the whole family was invited to attend—in 27 families both parents attended, in the remainder only the mother came and in 21 families brothers and sisters came too. The families travelled from all over England and Wales (one from Jersey) to Bexhill arriving on Sunday afternoon and leaving on the following Saturday morning. The four, sometimes five families, soon settled in to the warm, friendly hotel and were ready for the serious business of assessment and education in its broadest sense.

A typical week consisted of each child being seen by the psychologist, physiotherapist, occupational therapist on Monday. On Tuesday the parents were seen individually by the Social Worker whilst the children worked with the occupational therapist. On Wednesday each child was seen by the paediatrician and speech therapist. Thursday was usually free for at least half the day, with some morning sessions with the occupational therapist in playroom and swimming pool. On Friday

each child was again seen by the paediatrician, psychologist, speech therapist, physiotherapist and occupational therapist. The week's observations and recommendations were then fully discussed with the parents.

What did we learn from these courses? Among other things we learnt that many children, particularly those with severe or multiple handicaps, need long-term assessment in a residential setting. We know that the child is part of the family and cannot be properly treated or dealt with outside that framework, and that when considering the difficulties experienced by the handicapped child, these cannot be separated entirely from family attitudes and relationships. Nor can we separate the handicap from the child and endeavour to treat it as a thing or something outside the child. Whatever is done to treat the disability, affects the child and to some extent his family. For this reason we need to look at the whole child, his personality, his capabilities, his potential, his position in the family, his relationships, his needs, and then to consider ways of fulfilling these particular needs with due respect to what is realistically possible.

If we consider that the cerebrally palsied child has certain basic needs, we can then look at what happens when there is some interference in a particular area of development or activity and what effect this has on both the child and his family. For our purposes the main basic needs of the child are:—

- (1) To be with his family who will ideally give him the love and security necessary to allow his personal growth and development. Sometimes parents need help in finding within themselves this very capacity.
- (2) Complete diagnosis and regular assessment.
- (3) All types of treatment necessary to help him overcome or learn to live with his handicaps, so that he may enjoy the greatest degree of independence possible.
- (4) An education or training adapted to his handicap or his particular needs, and
- (5) An opportunity for social contacts and recreation.

From our experience at Colwall Court we were made aware of the frequency with which problems occur in families when these needs are not fulfilled, and how very difficult and



painful these are for a particular member of the family, at certain times. Where there is a handicapped child, problems become intensified and sometimes new ones are created.

However, we found that although each family is unique, many families have common problems which for convenience can be grouped under the heading 'general management'. They include difficulties with feeding and diet, sleeping, bathing, toileting, dressing, dependence and insecurity, the latter sometimes caused by separation through hospitalisation or early experiences. Apart from these difficulties, problems were created by a lack of appropriate equipment and a lack of treatment or proper assessment. Apart from the parents' own problems there were special problems for the only child, both for himself and his parents.

Let us look briefly at some of these problems and consider what can be done about them.

Perhaps there are parents reading this article today whose child has feeding difficulties, who sometimes wonder whether the child will choke or is getting enough? Often children are kept on soft food for this very reason or are spoon fed long after the time when they could manage for themselves. Parents cannot always know that a more interesting diet, the right chair or a built up spoon is a possible solution. Many children have difficulty of course because of their particular physical handicap—some have built up habits because no one has suggested an alternative. Here the various therapists spent a lot of time with the children and their parents at meal times, advising and trying out new methods. Ideally these problems should be ironed out with the help of the health visitor, at the Local Welfare Clinic or through local consultants.

Some families saw sleeping as their main problem and needed a great deal of help and encouragement to change old habits which had been established over the years when the child may have screamed for hours and a peaceful solution was found—regardless of the price. For others bathing was a nightmare—sometimes father had to take a bath at the same time so that he could hold the child. It is no easy matter to hold a soapy, wriggling body in the bath, let alone lift it out afterwards. Rubber rings, rubber mats and bath equipment took the backache out of this job for many mothers.

What created a problem for other parents was the child's lack of toilet training—some parents were afraid to expect too much, others found it difficult to appreciate that their child learned slowly. Advice and practical help was given to parents on this very important subject and several successes were reported.

The above are just a few of the problems presented for discussion with individual therapists or in discussion groups with other parents. Incidentally, the discussion groups were a popular feature of many of the courses and gave parents their first real opportunity

to talk about all sorts of things that had been worrying them over the years. Mainly they were relieved to be with other people who shared their problems who knew something of their loneliness and sympathised with their difficulties. This feeling of 'belonging' is closely akin to the feeling that the child has when he is an integrated member of the family. In the groups many subjects were raised, some discussed at great length, some heatedly and with considerable feeling and others occurred regularly in different groups. Topics included the attitude of neighbours, unkind remarks by relatives and friends, fears about having other children, the difficulty of shopping, having social outings or holidays, the good and bad aspects of the Local Authority, worry about school and the future, the effect of the handicapped child on other members of the family, feelings of guilt and sadness, resentment and despair. The effects of fretting, smacking and discipline. The dreadful feeling of isolation, the danger of over-protecting the child. The value of assessment, the truth about C.P., the early diagnosis and what the doctor said or failed to say, the daily frustrations, the whole business of lifting and carrying, feeding and potting, caring and doing for or encouraging independence in the handicapped child.

Coming back to the parents for a moment—their problems are very similar to those of any other parent but sometimes intensified by lack of support and help at critical stages or, for that matter, at any time in some cases. Parents seemed particularly sensitive about the very early days or years when they first learned that their child was spastic. This is a time of terrible distress and pain for parents, a time of great unhappiness coloured by anger, resentment, guilt, doubt and bewilderment. For many parents Colwall Court provided the time and opportunity to examine these feelings again and share them, perhaps revise them and feel some relief from seeing them in the open, and having them accepted and understood. This leads on to the next big problem—lack of adequate information.

Most of us feel that we would rather know about a thing than be kept in the dark; we would rather have the truth even though it hurts. We found that many parents had an almost desperate need for information and knew very little about cerebral palsy. This is not a criticism of parents but of our particular society that fails to give people the sort of information they need and to which they have a right. This need was satisfied in some instances by giving parents the opportunity to ask questions of any member of staff, through literature, films and discussion groups. Some said they had learnt more in a week than in all the previous years, which is a sad reflection on our methods of communication and suggests a failure to involve parents and the rest of the family in the diagnosis, the treatment, and in making plans for the future. Parents all tended to worry about certain things and perhaps fear them unnecessarily, simply because nobody had given them the time, or

opportunity to discuss the whole matter at length.

As you know many spastic children have some degree of mental handicap as well as their physical handicap. This means that they may develop more slowly or arrive at the usual milestone later than their unaffected brothers and sisters. This slowness or in some cases inability to do certain things is sometimes more upsetting for the parents than is the physical handicap. Parents talked a lot about this subject and were relieved to know that they were not alone with their doubts and fears. It was a relief to talk and to know others shared their fears and that for a child to be able to do or enjoy an activity, no matter how small, is rewarding in itself and the child, after all, is probably not as worried about not achieving great things as are his parents! Fundamentally, it is the recognition and acceptance that we are all different and have certain limitations or handicaps.

One thing which emerged from the Course which will not surprise some, but may surprise others, was the importance of the father in the whole situation. Too often father gets neglected, partly because mothers traditionally assume responsibility for taking the child to the doctor, etc. It is a great pity that fathers are not encouraged to take a more active part for they are usually just as worried and concerned about the child and can be of tremendous support to the whole family. It stands to reason that where a problem is shared the chances of success are greater and there may follow a happier relationship between parents and consequently the whole family, as a result of the father's participation. Whereas the child sometimes unites the parents there is also the danger that he can, and does, keep them apart. Fathers are important at all times but can be particularly helpful in the early years when the mother has of necessity to devote extra time to a new and sometimes delicate baby. Father can set the pattern for the rest of the family and be of inestimable value through his concern and support for his wife, and the new baby and other children. Later he brings the outside world to the handicapped children and the more interesting this is, the richer his child will be, and like many fathers on the Course he can show great ingenuity in making or adapting equipment for this child.

It hardly needs saying that mothers are vitally important in every family. They feel that upon them rests the great responsibility for the happiness and success of the whole family. Where there is a handicapped child very often they suffer physically and emotionally from the constant care, the continual lifting and carrying, and from lack of support, lack of outings and time in which to relax. The Course was very much appreciated by the majority of mothers for a variety of reasons—because it gave them a rare break from household chores, it enabled them to be with their family and incidentally allowed them the luxury of being looked after themselves.

*(Continued on page 8)*



# Nursing the Mentally Subnormal

by David Boorer

(Reprinted by courtesy of  
The Nursing Times)

THERE CAN be few nursing fields which have as much to offer as work with the mentally subnormal and for men this work is unrivalled in opportunity. Within their compass, hospitals for the mentally subnormal give a wide range of nursing experience, including work with babies, children, young people and adults in sick wards, highly specialised industrial and occupational departments and a variety of recreational activities. Allied to the variety of work, which demands all that the nurse has to give in the way of technical skill, patience and human understanding, there is considerable opportunity for advancement. Mental subnormality nursing is an expanding field.

The cold prophecy of closure, which has blighted so many psychiatric hospitals, has left the mental subnormality hospitals untouched. There is no easy solution to the problem of the mentally subnormal. The community can only care for a proportion of them, and to cope with the increasing demands for hospital accommodation and advances in treatment new hospitals are being built and staffing needs will increase.

## A Fallacious Image

The job itself, however, suffers from an unfortunate lack of popular appeal, and has many misconceptions attached to it. Despite the change of terminology brought about by the Mental Health Act, the words mental subnormality conjure up the same fallacious image of dreary custodial care as did the now outmoded term mental deficiency. People still think of it as dull routine, involving little more than long hours of supervision in the ward. Nothing, of course, could be further from reality. Hospitals for the mentally subnormal are happy places. Few of the patients know the torment which comes to the psychotic and psychoneurotic patient, and few of the staff are subjected to the emotional strain so often found among those who nurse the mentally ill. The mentally subnormal are, by and large, happy to be what they are, and take a simple pride in their many achievements, a pride which is shared in no small measure by the staff.

## Custody in the Widest Sense

Although custodial care plays a large and important part in the work of the nurse in mental subnormality, its interpretation is very different from the same conception some

years ago. Custody there must be with patients who are incapable of managing their own affairs or caring for their own personal needs, but it is custody in the widest sense, a firm but kindly overseeing of every aspect of the patient's day, and one which provides him with a constant stimulus to achieve his best.

Running through any treatment programme for the mentally subnormal is a constant educational theme. Patients are carefully and continually assessed and trained to the limits of their mental and physical capacities. While for some severely subnormal patients these limits may stop short at eventual ability to wash and dress unaided, for others the training may achieve eventual discharge, a steady job, marriage and a family.

## Progress at its Best

Thus progress, a word much misused in the mental hospital context, is seen at its best in hospitals for the mentally subnormal. Many patients literally progress through the hospital, from admission ward to occupational and industrial units, where tasks of increasing complexity are taught and mastered, to a job in the outside world, and sometimes to complete independence.

However, even for those who can never hope to achieve discharge, life is still meaningful. Within the hospital, even severely subnormal patients can, with careful training from the staff, undertake complex industrial tasks and receive ample pay. Certainly patients lack little, have some money in the bank, and can save for high days and holidays.

The intensive, purposeful activity found in these hospitals is equally divided between work and play. A patient's free time may be spent simply watching TV, or he may attend a variety of evening classes, games, concerts and film shows. Holidays, too, play an important part in the patient's life, and may range from camping to visits to other hospitals, and even trips to guest houses, unaccompanied by staff.

## A Clearly-defined Role

In all these activities, the role of the nurse is clearly defined. From the wards in which sick and deformed children are cared for with unequalled devotion and nursing skill, to the highly organized industrial departments, nurses have their part to play. Not for them the relinquishing of their patients

to specialists; in hospitals for the mentally subnormal nurses *are* the specialists and contribute to the patient's treatment and training at all levels. This close identification with the patient and the clarity of role are major factors in the professional satisfaction which nurses in this field so obviously gain.

## The Particular Problems

It would be quite wrong to assume that hospitals for the mentally subnormal are nursing beds of roses. They suffer more than their fair share of the problems besetting the hospital service today. They are short of money, equipment and staff. But somehow this situation does not create the emotional and professional turmoil which besets hospitals where the wind of change is blowing so erratically. Although mental subnormality nurses are contented, they are not complacent. They are well aware of the value of the work they are doing, want to do better, and are equally aware of the fact that until recently, at any rate, little public attention has been directed towards their needs. But despite all the problems, few of the nurses who take up the work leave it again for other fields.

## Mental Subnormality Nursing Courses

Depending upon the initial training, there are two courses for the certificate of mental subnormality nursing: the 18-month course for S.R.N.s and the 12-month course for R.M.N.s. These courses, while differing in content, are carefully planned to give the students experience of work with the mentally subnormal, while avoiding any repetition of ground already covered.

For the general trained nurse, little attention would be paid to nursing procedures beyond the adaptations needed for caring for the mentally subnormal, but he would learn about the specific disorders of mental subnormality, the provisions of the Mental Health Act, psychology, psychiatry and the supporting social services. This would be achieved by a careful balance of formal classroom tuition and experience in all types of ward and department.

## Differences facing the Mental Nurse

Despite the few actual differences which exist between the syllabuses for the mental and the mental subnormality parts of the Register, it would be quite wrong for the trained mental nurse to assume that he could become



skilled in the care of the mentally subnormal overnight. Although the theoretical part of the work would be readily assimilated, the mental nurse would need, for example, to revise his concept of observation. Whereas in mental hospitals many patients are relatively self-reliant, in subnormality hospitals they need constant watching, constant encouragement, constant attention to every detail if they are to maintain and improve their standards. Habit training, too, has a more important and detailed role in the mental subnormality hospital, and may range from regularly reminding a patient to tie his bootlaces to correcting bad posture and physical defects. Finally, the standards of physical nursing are so high and so demanding in the subnormality hospital, that a mental nurse who had, perhaps little chance of practising them during his initial training would need to brush up on his former knowledge.

During the period of training, allowances are £562 for the first year (this would be paid to the general nurse in his first six months), and £591 for the second, with a deduction of £180 for board and lodging in each year of training.

**Promotion Prospects**

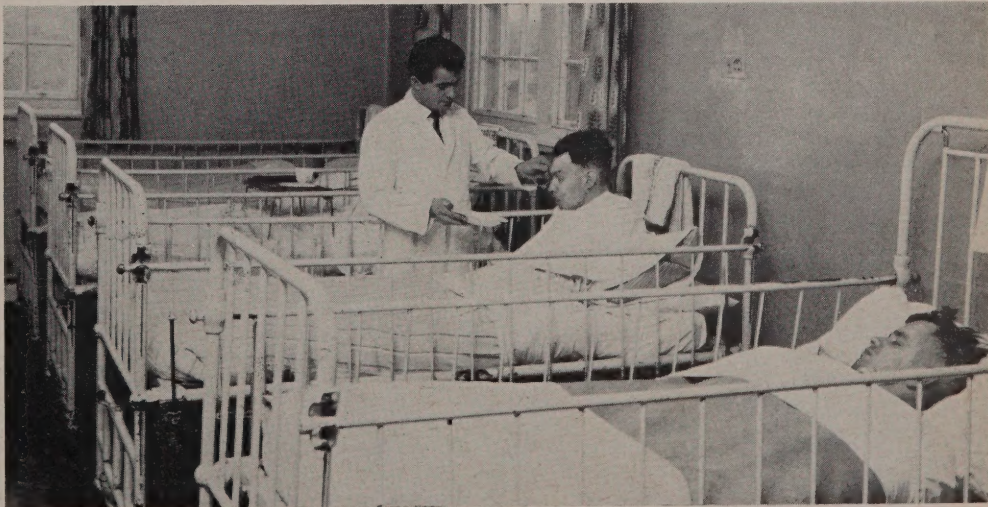
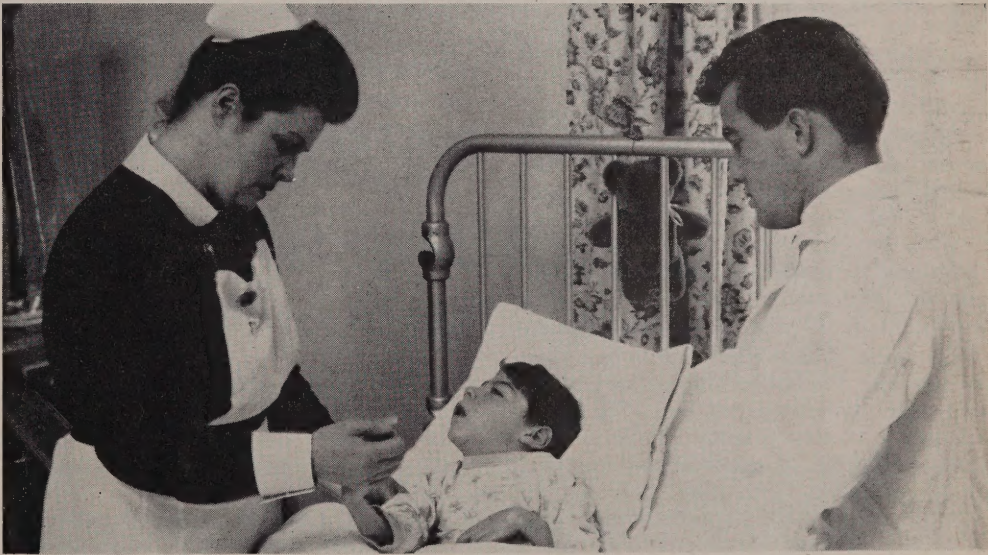
In the words of one chief male nurse the door of opportunity is 'wide open' in the mental subnormality field. Many of the present staff are nearing retirement and there will be ample chance for rapid promotion in the future. Apart from the scope for promotion within the hospital, community care is increasing, and many nurses are moving to take up posts in charge of local community hostels. Some men have found their subnormality experience of value in taking up work with the probation service, as many of today's offenders are mentally subnormal.

**Attractions of the Work**

It is not easy to assess the undoubted attractions of the work, but mental subnormality nursing seems to bring out the best in people, who react favourably to being so obviously needed by their patients and to their secure role within the hospital. It may well be that, because of the structure of this form of nursing, one which has remained largely unchanged over the years, the mental subnormality nurse is not subjected to the same stresses which have afflicted those in the mental field. This might explain why mental nurses who take up the work are reluctant to leave, even in some cases when they remain untrained in the work accepting a drop in salary.

Whatever the reasons, there are few jobs which can compare in the variety of nursing skills demanded, and in the rewards, both in career prospect and job satisfaction, which it offers.

If one thing is certain in this changing world it is that mental subnormality nurses are needed as never before, and that both the need and the prospects will increase as time goes on.





# Why Help Parents?

(Continued from page 5)

Too often it is assumed that other children in the family accept their handicapped member in spite of a great deal of evidence to the contrary. Brothers and sisters do not always understand the necessity for mother giving so much time to the other child or feel loving towards him—they have feelings of jealousy and resentment too. So it is necessary to look at the whole picture and try to understand its complicated pattern and work out together what is best for each member of the family and the family as a whole.

These are some of the areas which were of special interest—there are many more. But we felt that the Course fulfilled a very real need for those who attended. Ideally this type of Course should be available for all, but this is not practical. We need to learn from this how better to help all families and find ways of fulfilling the particular needs which seem to be relevant to the majority of families.

How can we provide the type of service that fulfils most, if not all, these needs? This is not easy despite the fact that a multiplicity of agencies exist in Great Britain to help the handicapped person and provide services that in many respects are second to none.

Indeed, the great variety of help can lead to the unhappy situation where everybody's business becomes the responsibility of none. Our Local Authorities contribute to this problem to some extent by transferring the child from the medical to educational authorities at a particular age and by failing to let families know the range of facilities available.

The Social Worker's task is then to evaluate the available services and if necessary to give help with individual problems. She is the interpreter of family needs and in ensuring that all sources of practical aid are made available she may then have to smooth the way between the family and the various other agencies that exist which give the type of help needed.

Many parents cope perfectly well on their own, others need help at particular times or with particular things like equipment, a holiday or advice about schooling. At Colwall Court equipment was provided for over 30 per cent of the children, advice was given on daily management, educational assessment was available to each child and as this was all mediated through the team, the parents were presented with a unified front. *It is the fragmentary approach that often causes unnecessary stress to families.* To meet these diverse needs we need greater co-operation all round so that all those who are concerned with the families' welfare are working together, with the result that families receive the sort of help they need when they need it, and there is a feeling that although things are difficult, they are not impossible.



## EMPLOYMENT NEWS

**BERNARD BOWDLER** from North Wingfield, who trained at Sherrards, is doing general machine work for a firm in Chesterfield.

**JOHN CROCKER** from Banbury, who trained at Sherrards, is employed as a capstan lathe operator by a firm in Kirkby, Lancs.

**GEOFFREY FARRANT** from Exeter, is employed as an articled clerk by the Somerset County Council.

**DAVID GIBSON** from Dumfries, commenced work in September for the Co-Operative Insurance Society in Manchester, as an insurance trainee.

**LESLIE JOHNSON** from Sandbach, has commenced a trial period of employment near his home.

**DESMOND MCHUGH** from London, has returned to his old employment with the Islington Borough Council.

**DAVID PAGE** from Dundee, who trained at Sherrards, has started a trial period of employment in the Assembly Training Section of a manufacturing concern in Welwyn Garden City.

**NORMA PARRY** from Kirkby, who trained at Sherrards, is working in the Production Department of Shoreline International Ltd. Her duties consist of threading belts through slack and skirts.

**ANGELA REED** from Bristol, who trained at Sherrards, has commenced a trial period of employment in a local factory.

**SUSAN SHAW** from Manchester, who trained at the Chester Office Training Centre, commenced a trial period of employment with a local firm.

**BARRY SHIELS** from London Colney, who trained at Messrs. Joseph Lucas, Birmingham has changed his job and is now employed as a capstan lathe operator by a local firm.

**GRAHAM WEBB** from Blackpool, undertook a seasonal job in the Blackpool Rodeo, working in the stables.

**ROBERT WILLIS** from Cardiff, commenced a trial period of employment in a local office.

## Blyth Spirit of Giving

THIS photograph was taken at the end-of-season dance organised by the Blue Star Summer Darts League and held in the B.R.S.A. Hall by kind permission of the Club Committee. Mr. Milne, M.P. for Blyth, is seen presenting the League Shield to Mr. W. Foster, captain of the Albion Inn darts team. Looking over the shield is League Chairman Mr. H. Wilson, and on the extreme right is Mr. R. Hook the League Secretary.

One of the highlights of the evening came when League Chairman, Mr. H. Wilson,

handed a cheque for £70 to Mr. W. Dixon of The Spastics Society. This money was raised by collections taken at darts matches during the past season. The League Treasurer, Mr. L. Darbyshire, announced that since the League's commencement almost £300 has been donated to the Society.

Also operating in Blyth during the winter months is a Friday night darts league which since it was formed a short while ago, has donated £100 to The Spastics Society. The Secretary of this league is Mr. R. Davison.

(Photograph: Courtesy Blyth News)







JACQUES HALL, near Manningtree, Essex, is a new Residential Centre for adult spastics, set in 23 acres of beautiful grounds. On 1st October it was officially opened by Dr. Albert E. Sloman, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Essex, who was welcomed by Mr. A. Moira, Vice-Chairman of the Spastics Society, Dr. C. P. Stevens, its Director, Mr. J. A. Loring, Assistant Director (Services to Spastics) and Mr. V. P. Devonport, Warden of Jacques Hall.

Mr. Moira told the audience that Jacques Hall brought the number of the Society's Centres almost to the 100 mark, and described the range of services which the National Society and its Local Groups could now provide.

If it were possible to sum up what the different speakers said about the work begun at Jacques Hall and elsewhere, it would amount to this: that the quality of care of the handicapped, and the outlets made for their talents and gifts, is a measure of the civilisation of a community. We have no need to be ashamed—but there is plenty still to do.

# New Centre Opened for Adult Spastics

Jacques Hall, in Essex.



(Right): Dr. Sloman addresses the audience before unveiling the plaque. Other members of the platform party, left to right, are: Dr. C. P. Stevens, Mr. A. Moira, Mr. V. P. Devonport, and Mr. J. A. Loring



# The Call

by H. B. Davies, M.B.E., B.Sc.(Econ),  
former Headmaster of the Thomas Delarue School

In this, the first extract from his memoirs, Mr. Davies tells us of some of the early and fruitful experiences of a teaching life devoted to the handicapped.

AS A BOY in Wales I often heard the expression used of someone that he had received a 'call'. Usually it was applied to an invitation to take up the pastorals of some particular Nonconformist place of worship, and I always wondered from whom the calls came, and how it was received.

I knew the lovely story of Eli and Samuel, of Samuel's call to the priesthood, and putting two and two together I came to the conclusion that these men were called to their various chapels by a 'still, small voice', by the audible voice of God. That there was indeed some real sense of vocation which brought the majority into the Ministry of the various denominations and their chapels in the first instance I do not doubt, but with the inevitable disillusionment of later years I discovered there were other calls on men's minds and hearts than the authentic voices of God.

In time I learned that the 'call' to a particular chapel came not directly from God, but from the Elders and Deacons of that chapel. They in their turn were motivated by the desire for a pastor or minister who by the excellence of his preaching and the appeal of his personality could be relied upon to fill their place of worship and make it prosperous in every way. The chosen minister was induced to move in response to the call by the prospect of a more important chapel, a wider scope for his preaching talent, the opportunity to widen his influence in and on a community, and more prosaically by the large stipend, the better manse or pastor's house, and sometimes alas, by the superior social status of the venue of the church and the standing of its congregation.

The great days of the chapels seem to be past, and one never hears nowadays that 'Evan Williams has been called to Hermon' or Davy Davies to Bethel, or John Jones to Bethesda. Many of these once proud buildings now stand empty and lifeless, or have been converted to secular uses as warehouses, workshops and even as bingo halls. Many of the former ministers have been forced by sheer poverty to listen to 'calls' to other walks of life, and we find them today, divested of clerical garb, working as teachers probation officers and even in industry and business as salesmen, clerks and the like.

That this bit of social history has some relevance for our magazine you will appreciate

when I tell you that it serves to introduce my own 'call' to the service of the handicapped. It was in 1938 that I went to Ashford in Kent as the headmaster of a very smart and successful boys' school, but teachers' salaries were poor in those days, and family responsibilities forced me to seek a means to supplement my pay. An advertisement for an organist and choirmaster at a local church caught my eye, and having had quite a few years' experience in these roles I applied. I was lucky and was appointed, at the then princely salary of £52 a year, a most welcome addition to my meagre income.

I found on taking up duty at the church that the choir was drawn mainly from the boys of the well-known Home Office Approved School for Intermediate Boys, that is, boys from 13 to 16 years of age on admission, which meant in fact an age range from 13 to 19 years. They looked quite cherubic and innocent with their shining faces and in their cassocks and surplices on that first Sunday morning. What a surprise was in store for me! What a shock it was to learn what my young 'angels' had been and were capable of, what lay behind committal to an Approved School!

When I asked the Rector about choir practices he told me that there were two each week, one for the men and 'ordinary' boys in the church, and another for the 'other' boys at the School. Arriving at the School on the appointed evening I was greeted by the Rector, who was also a Governor of the School, by the Headmaster and by another master. Presently, after warning the boys to give me their full attention, the Headmaster withdrew with the Rector, leaving the other master to see that I was not eaten up or obliterated.

The truth is we got on famously, so much so that the next week I asked the head to withdraw the supervising master, to which he agreed 'experimentally'. I found I was able to make real and understanding contact with these supposedly tough lads and to win their respect and trust. This gift brought me into a closer friendship with our dear saintly Rector and the very able Headmaster.

In 1941 the head confided to me that he would be leaving later in the year to take over an approved school in the North—he was a Northerner—and that he felt very strongly that I had a flair for work with dif-

ficult, deprived young people whose characters were malformed. Had I given a thought to applying for his school?

This pleased me very much as I had come to feel strongly that my true metier lay with young people whose lives had become warped and distorted for various reasons, family, social, mental and educational or physical; in other words I heard a real 'call' to a special service. The better to equip myself for this work, and with my wife's approval and co-operation, but to the consternation of relatives and friends, I resigned my headmastership and secured a post as an Assistant Master with my wife as Assistant Matron at an Approved School in the west country. Here I was veritably 'thrown in at the deep end'. The School was a bad one, without *esprit-de-corps*, under a tyrannical head devoid of true understanding of the unfortunate committed to his charge, so that the boys were rebellious, difficult and unco-operative, escaping whenever they saw a chance to 'do a skid'. I learnt a great deal there.

Probably the advertisement for the Ashford School saved me. We applied and were amazed and delighted to find ourselves appointed as Headmaster and Matron. I took over after serving only ten alarming and invaluable weeks as an assistant master and now began one of the most interesting and probably the most exciting periods of my life during which I discovered anew the incomparable asset to any child of wise and understanding parents, a home which is a refuge from every storm, a secure and happy haven, and schools and teachers who can and do try to understand and to help their pupils. Delinquency springs from the failures of parents, homes and schools.

It was now that I first faced the problems of the physically handicapped too, whose erring ways were a direct result of the frustrations and lack of understanding too often their lot in those difficult war years. Through these I gravitated naturally to work wholly with the physically handicapped, a transition which, half a century ago would have been described in Wales as another 'call' to special service.

During my years with the physically handicapped, of which I shall say something in a later article, I met my first spastics, or as I first knew them, cerebrally palsied children. These led me, all unwittingly to the first of the Society's Schools, the Thomas Delarue at Tonbridge. This was my third and final call, possibly the most challenging and rewarding.

Ironically enough, I was tempted to apply for the Delarue School because it was advertised for 45 pupils only, and as I had 150 handicapped boys and girls up in Lancashire just then I thought of the post in Kent as offering the chance of ten nice, gentle, easy years before retirement! Serves me right for listening to a false 'call'! What a shock awaited me! This was truly my toughest assignment!



## Wolverhampton Inaugural

THE WEATHER was unkind on Thursday, 23rd September, but 112 enthusiasts, many of whom were parents, turned out to attend the Inaugural Meeting of the Wolverhampton and District Spastics Society in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, presided over by the Mayor, Councillor Frank Clapham, M.B.E., J.P.

The working party was invited by the Mayor and Mayoress to take sherry in the Parlour as a first move in the proceedings, and the Town Hall also provided coffee and biscuits at the close for all those attending. These hospitable gestures were much appreciated and are typical of the goodwill that exists between the voluntary workers and the authorities, whose co-operation in the ground-work of forming this new Society has been most noteworthy. To Dr. Ramage, County M.O.H. Staffordshire, Dr. Galloway, Wolverhampton, M.O.H., their staff, and the Welfare Officers, we say a big 'Thank you'.

Dr. Margaret Griffiths, whose interest in cerebral palsy began in the North-West and who is well known to the Spastics Society,

is Chairman of the Group's Committee, having led the working party to this milestone. Her address was listened to with close attention. Imaginative proposals have been discussed with Mr. Lancaster-Gaye, Development Secretary, whose advice is embodied in an outline plan for the future.

Mr. Frank, Chief Regional Officer, representing the Spastics Society, was applauded for an apt speech stressing the compassionate approach to charitable work.

Mr. John Brass, President-designate of the Institute of Mining, and Chairman of the West Midlands Division of the National Coal Board, has added lustre to an already impressive list of Members of Committee by his acceptance of the office of President.

Support of neighbouring Groups by the presence of office-bearers from the Midland Spastic Association, Dudley and West Bromwich was most encouraging to the new Society, the tenth group to be formed in West Midlands Region.

The Mayor duly launched the new Society, announcing also its intention to affiliate with the national body and to adopt the recommended model constitution.

Immediate and down-to-earth aid was forthcoming from Mr. Whitehouse and his

wife, who handed the Hon. Treasurer £20, and from Mrs. Allan who added £11 from a coffee-morning held that same day.

A fitting speech of thanks to the Mayor for presiding, made by Mr. Llewellyn from the floor of the Chamber, ended the formal part of an evening important to all spastics and their families in Wolverhampton and surrounding districts.

*I. C. R. Archibald.*

## Gloucester and District Spastic Association

A MOST successful public meeting of some 80 people took place in Gloucester on 15th September. This was the culmination of a six weeks publicity drive by members and friends of the Group. In addition to a raffle for a suite of furniture, a flag day and house to house collection which produced unlooked for results, Barclays Bank lent the Association an empty shop in the main street for four weeks. With clever use of the Spastics Society's posters, pamphlets, photo's, jewellery, and books, etc., two very attractive window displays were mounted. Relays of untiring helpers manned a table in the shop entrance, handing out literature, answering questions, and last but not least enrolling group members.

The Bon Marche generously made available a most comfortable room for the meeting, which was chaired by Mr. D. W. Spackman, the Association's Chairman, in the presence of Mr. D. Embling, the Mayor of Gloucester's Consort, who is well known for his untiring work for the physically handicapped. After speeches by Mr. Embling, and the Association's Secretary, Mr. W. G. Thomas, Mr. Embling was asked to draw the winning raffle tickets and the first prize of a suite of furniture went to a Gloucester resident.

## New Spastics Centre Opened at Urmston

SIR HARRY PLATT, the distinguished surgeon, recently opened the Urmston Group's new day centre for spastic children.

Funds for the Centre were raised by the local Group, with the help of a grant from the Spastics Society and contributions from local organisations and private individuals.

Some of the children's wheelchairs carry

presentation plates from the Urmston Rotary Club.

The work of the Matron, Miss S. Axon, and her three trained staff is reinforced by part-time and voluntary workers.

'We do rely on our part-time helpers', said Miss Axon. 'Not only do we have our children here five days a week, but on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings we have ten schoolchildren coming for physiotherapy treatment.'

The eight children who come to the Centre daily range in age from a child of twelve months to 23-year-old Pauline, who is now able to help some of the younger ones herself.

*(Photograph: Courtesy Stretford County Express)*





# Guess what the Stork will bring in November?

LINCOLNSHIRE's residential centre for spastics at Scunthorpe is nearly ready but £10,000 is still needed. A mini, a barrow-load of silver and some of the county's civic heads took part in October in the launching of a 'last ditch' campaign to raise the necessary money.

To get the £10,000 a county-wide contest will be staged during the next two months.

Competitors will have to forecast the total number of babies born in Lincoln, Grimsby, Boston, Scunthorpe and Grantham during November.

They also have to forecast how many of the babies will be girls and suggest a suitable name in five words for the new Lincolnshire centre.

For their pains they can win a mini-car full of money—that is, a mini together with as much silver as the winner can shovel into the car under 'Beat the Clock' conditions.

Lincoln's Mayor, Coun. G. G. Elsey, demonstrated the second part of the prize. Although he claimed, as a works study engineer, he ought to have a bigger shovel, he was not afforded this facility.

Dawn of the Dee Jays, the local pop group, inaugurated the competition by driving the car ten feet—to the dramatic rolling of a piano—into the reception hall of Gilbert and Son Ltd., Lincoln.

Rally driver Paddy Hopkirk sent a cablegram from Australia saying that he could not be at the reception as promised.

In his absence Mr. H. A. Adlam, the Spastics Society's Assistant Appeals Secretary announced the offer of the first contract of work for the new centre.

It came from a motor accessories' firm with which Mr. Hopkirk is connected. The work is the assembly of four different motor accessory units at the production rate of 2,000 per week.

Present at the ceremony were The City Sheriff (Dr. J. B. Wilkinson) the Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire (The Earl of Ancaster) the High Sheriff of Lincolnshire (Lieut. Cdr G. W. Wells) the Mayor of Louth (Coun. Miss A. E. Hardy), the Mayor of Grantham (Coun. J. H. Foster).

(Story: courtesy Lincolnshire Chronicle)

## Performance of 'Thark' for 120 Spastic Children

ON the 30th September, at the invitation of Cooney Productions & Enterprises Ltd., 120 pupils from Thomas Delarue School, Elizabeth Fry School, Cloudesley and Franklin Delano Roosevelt School, attended a performance of 'Thark'. The whole theatre was allotted to them and the cast, after the final curtain in their final pyjama costumes joined the pupils and spent an hour and a half with them, finally putting them into buses for their journey home.

Our pictures show Jenny Linden and Peter Cushing with some of the children.



## Tees-Side Bowling

MRS. N. WILSON, of Middlesbrough, has started a most exciting and successful venture with her Tees-side Spastics' Bowling Club, the first in the north-east. With 16 members, and bowling every Friday night at 6 o'clock, they have just finished their first season and been presented with a trophy by the Mayor and Mayoress of Middlesbrough, Alderman and Mrs. T. Farthing.

(Right), Members of the League: Ronald Cook, Stephen Hughes, Karen Fiske, Christine Hunter, Elaine McKinley, Susan Marsh, David Clemmitt, Martin Booth, Tom Randell, Joan Heseltine, Jimmy Beavis, Jeffrey Hughff. In the background is Mr. A. S. Childs, then Manager of the Excel Bowl, Middlesbrough, who has since transferred to the Merrion Bowl, Leeds, where he hopes to start another Spastics' Bowling League





# Spastics Christmas Cards —A Growing Industry

by G. G. Payne

SINCE its registry as a Company over four years ago, Spastics Cards Ltd. has grown until at Christmas 1963, well over five million cards were distributed. Our sales target of 7½ million cards for 1964 made necessary a move to larger premises, and the organisation was transferred from Ealing to an industrial estate in the village of Iver, in Bucks.

It was no small task. A complete organisation had to be moved from a crowded and busy London suburb to a comparatively rural atmosphere. Over three million cards had to be brought into our new empty building from a number of temporary storage spaces—Spastics Cards are indebted to an anonymous Ealing butcher who, free of charge, stored over a million Bumper Cards for three months in an unused portion of his warehouse. It would be interesting to hear, in this connection if any customer last year received a free gift of poultry with their cards, if so, it is to be regretted that in the coming season they are unlikely to do as well.

## FULL CIRCLE

Spastics themselves play a vital part, because in the production of cards sold under the heading 'Spastic printed' they have made a very large contribution to the total number of cards sold in each year; this year the



quantity planned for in sales is well over 1½ million. The designs are colourful and extremely well produced, the value excellent at 6d. each with envelope.

## BUY EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS

Please use the brochure enclosed in this copy and buy your cards early.

## An Idea for Next Summer

### Collectors Please Note!

MR. GEORGE WHITCOMBE, Box and Beacons Collector, writes: 'We had a pile of pennies standing in the Royal Oak, at Bearsted, a charming village with a well-kept green, just outside Maidstone. I suggested to the girls of Tesco Ltd., Maidstone, that they form a cricket team and play a team of customers from the pub.

'The idea caught on, and when the Directors of Tesco heard about it they bought the girls new white outfits (17 of them), much to the delight of these amateurs. The firm also gave a huge box of groceries as a raffle prize, and unknown to me the girls brought their own collecting boxes and went round the crowd.

'The customers enjoyed every minute and a return match is already in the planning. The hotel did a roaring trade afterwards and a new pile of pennies got off to a good start.'

## Elspet Gray Opens Christmas Card Shop

*Autograph hunters surrounded actress Elspet Gray when she opened the 1959 Group of Charities' Christmas Card shop at the Elephant and Castle. The shop will be open until Christmas.*

*Miss Margaret Taylor, 19, a spastic member of the East London Group, presented Miss Gray with a bouquet*



## Bumper Packs:

*One of the card collation teams in the warehouse—in this view assembling the 1965 Bumper Pack. This work continues from early in the year and throughout the summer to build up the very vital stocks for marketing in the very hectic period between September and December, and keeps busy the key staff, who form the nucleus of the much larger staff needed as Christmas draws near*

## North Surrey Group

PLENTY of good news from the North Surrey Group this month. The girls at Gipsy Hill Training College wanted to start a club of their own, and arranged to meet in the evenings at the spastics centre in Geneva Road. Now the students are giving lessons in cookery, painting and needlework to the spastic people at the centre, and both enjoy music and games together.

And what the girls from Gipsy Hill teach, they teach well. One of their spastic pupils, Lorna Appleyard, of 27 Windsor Avenue, New Malden, came in second in an open cake competition at Sandown Park Carnival in September. No, nobody knew she was spastic.

Another unusual success at Geneva Road is the appointment of Miss Ruth Verge, formerly one of the spastic trainees at the centre, as Assistant Supervisor. Miss Verge has been learning to do the job for the last six months.

## Record Collection

The Midland Spastic Association, on their Flag Day in Birmingham, collected over £1,320, about £300 more than last year.

## Going Round in Circles!

'... the centre is run by voluntary helpers on a rotary basis'.

*(Statement in a report from a local group)*



# A Simple Woodworking Machine in use at Craig-y-Parc School

THE problem arose when Christopher wanted to make a clothes horse. 'You can't do it Chris, you're unable to use a carpenter's brace.'

The teacher noted the look of disappointment on the face of Christopher Stree of Stroud, Gloucester. The look started a train of thought. 'If only the brace could be fixed in position'. Christopher, a 15-year-old boy, was strong in the left arm but had poor control of the right and was chair-bound.

The following week a load of off-cuts was delivered to the school, the gift of local timber merchants. The same day a stout wooden bracket was made from some 3 in. by 2 in. material, one long vertical arm, a shorter horizontal arm.

The wood pad was removed from the brace which was fixed to the under side of the horizontal arm by means of screws passing through the original holes of the pad support.

'Yes, the brace will turn. If only we had a steel support coming off the vertical arm to steady the brace below the crank.'

'My father is an engineer' said Christopher. 'He's coming to fetch me this week.'

The father came, looked, listened. 'Give me a sketch of the bracket you need.' When Chris returned from the mid-term break he brought the bracket with him. That afternoon the bracket was in position. The following day a sleeve made from  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. plywood was fitted to the vertical arm which was thus free to move up and down. The whole was fixed to a piece of 1 in. blockboard which was, in turn, fixed to the end of a bench. A smaller piece of blockboard provided a table on which to rest the work.

A bit was put in the brace and a small block served as a depth stop. 'Try it out Chris.'

Chris. turned the brace; the bit entered the wood but did not 'bite'.

'We need a spring or weight'—'Try the 14-lb. weight from the maths table said Chris. It worked. Fourteen pound was just enough to assist the bit through the wood and the top arm of the wood bracket was wide enough and strong enough to carry it.

The device, still in the development stage, is used regularly. As these notes are read the clothes horse is in use.

Cost to the school? No cost. Pleasure to the boy? Who can tell?

The idea is a simple one. The device is easily made. It came into being through a little bit of workshop know-how, and the co-operation of pupil, parent, teacher and school.

The photograph shows Christopher using the device, still in its unfinished state.



## Lift for the Handicapped at Art Gallery

ATTENDANTS will soon no longer have to carry spastic children and other crippled people up a long flight of stairs to visit Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.

The first public lift for the Gallery is included in an extension provided from conversion of the old Gas Board showrooms in Edmund Street.

The cost of the extension and the lift is being met by money left to the city by a Four Oaks man, Mr. Albert Edward Hills, who died 22 years ago.

The £10,000 he bequeathed was invested and has since grown to £18,000.

(Edited from the Birmingham Evening Mail)

## The Pope Blesses Work for Spastics

WHEN Spastics organisations from many parts of the world met at an international Conference in Rome recently, a group of the delegates was received in general audience by the Pope in St. Peter's.

In blessing the delegates His Holiness included their families and friends and their work for spastics throughout the world.

The director of The Spastics Society, Dr. C. P. Stevens, and the President of The World Council for Cerebral Palsy, Mr. George Pollock, were presented to the Pope.

Mr. Pollock is closely connected with The Scottish Council for the Welfare of Spastics and a member of the Medical Advisory Committee of The Spastics Society.



# '62 CLUBS



## Editorial

### our voice has arrived!

BY THIS STATEMENT I mean that we have been given a valuable medium through which we are able to express our views and opinions on club life, and life in general. At the first Annual Conference, held at Westcliff-on-Sea, last February, many of the delegates put forward the suggestion that there should be a quarterly magazine or circular to enable our clubs to keep in closer contact. This suggestion received such strong support that, as you can see, we have been able to 'creep' into the middle of the SPASTICS NEWS. For those of you who have perhaps heard of these clubs, but have not grasped their full meaning (and there are many of you), let me take this chance, in my first editorial, to expound on some of our principles. No don't turn the page over yet! I promise you I won't get too involved.

Firstly, the idea or feeling, as the name suggests, came into being in 1962. A group of adult spastics discussed with Mr. W. M. C. Hargreaves (himself spastic) the feeling that there were no social opportunities for the 'in between' adult spastic. By 'in between' I mean the people who felt quite unable, because of their disabilities, to join in the activities of the clubs run by various bodies for active people, and yet felt discontented with clubs organised for them. The word 'organised' was found to be the crux of the matter, for they were no longer children who needed to be organised, and felt that given the chance, they would be quite able to plan their own social activities and in doing so, to encourage others like themselves. And so in March 1962, almost ten years exactly after the then National Spastics Society was formed, the first '62 club was born. One of the first jobs for the newly-formed committee was to get a really strong constitution together, so that they would not become just another social club which could in time become organised entirely by well-meaning able-bodied persons. I will extract a clause from the Constitution which is being adopted by most of the clubs coming into existence, summing up probably better than I can the full meaning behind it all.

#### ITEM 2—OBJECTS

(a) To assist all sufferers from cerebral palsy (hereinafter referred to as Spastics) and other substantially handicapped persons to live with their handicap and to encourage in them as much independence as possible.

(b) To encourage the handicapped to help each other.

(c) To promote social and cultural activities among handicapped and non-handicapped persons.

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(d) To assist the Spastics Society in its aims and objects.

(e) To raise funds to enable the Objects to be put into effect.

By that one item, as a 'mouth waterer' so to speak I think you can see we really mean business!

From that beginning clubs numbering at this moment 23 have sprung up in different parts of the country, and are all enjoying a new found independence.

## Anyone Else?

by Joan Simmonite  
Nottingham '62 Club

WHEN I go to our '62 Club in Nottingham or read of spastics taking part in events such as the recent Club Conference, I admire those able to get up and speak especially when they are members like myself, unable to talk quite so well. I often wonder how many sit as I do feeling annoyed because they too would like to ask questions or make suggestions. I nearly always go home thinking over things I could have said if only I had been able to join in.

I should be interested to know how others feel about this. We are members of the '62 Club where we all have to take part, and also do more for ourselves. Now that we are to have extra pages in the SPASTICS NEWS for our news and ideas, I should be interested to know how others manage. Perhaps I'm the only one who would like to talk and doesn't for fear of not being understood.

You know I can imagine someone suggesting taking a note-book to write down my request for another member to read. That might be a good plan for some, but I should hate anyone to have bad eyes through trying to read my writing. I've got a typewriter, it's far too heavy to have on my knee in case I wanted to 'say anything'. What a picture, if after a speaker's request for questions, there's a long wait while I type mine, picking out the letters with one finger, not giving anyone a chance to hear any other questions through my noise. I cannot see that happening. All the same I do wonder if there are others the same, and if there is some way round the problem.



# A New '62 Club

## Mr. F. J. Strong — Bexley & District '62 Club

A PARENT of a spastic was heard to say not long after our inaugural meeting, 'It won't work'. This is typical of the head-in-the-sand attitude of many (not all) parents of disabled adults; they can't bear to think that their 'little dears' in growing up might conceivably want to manage their own affairs. We on the committee intend that these parents shall change their views somewhat in the near future.

On Wednesday, July 22, Mr. Hargreaves (President) and Mrs. M. West (Secretary) of the London '62 Club visited a front room in Bexley Heath, at the request of eight spastics who wished to form a '62 Club in the area served by the London borough of Bexley and its surrounding districts. It didn't take long for the club to be inaugurated and as many of the committee as possible (because of our low number) elected. We achieved a full committee two weeks later and are ably led by Arthur E. Strong (Chairman), Laurence Taylor (Vice-Chairman), George A. Lloyd (Secretary), Robert Dean (Treasurer) and, of course, myself acting as programme secretary, the rest of the committee comprising three very nice young ladies and one gentleman.

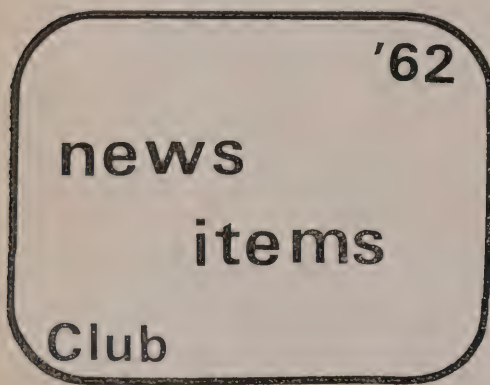
Our Secretary, Chairman, and myself lost no time in getting down to the task in hand by writing numerous letters to church halls, the local council, the education officer, etc., to try to find a meeting place; so that we could attract more members. But alas not one church hall could accommodate us on Thursday evenings, the council halls were too expensive, the council committee rooms were upstairs and so on, until one day George said that he knew of a pub with a club room downstairs. We wrote, and a few days later received a phone call from the landlord's wife informing us that the club room was free. When asked what the hire charge would be, she gave us a considerably reduced rate. The following day I went to have a look at it—it was ideal! I 'phoned round to all the committee who immediately agreed, then we got a circular out to all the disabled people we knew, asking them if they would be interested and to contact our Secretary at 167 Maiden Lane, Crayford, Kent, who would immediately forward them an application form.

We have no intentions of letting any non-disabled person, however good their inten-

tions, to have anything whatsoever to do with the management of the club. Associate membership will be given only to those who really enjoy joining us in our activities (associate members are non-disabled and therefore have no vote). Our activities we are planning will take the form of socials and outings; to start off with, becoming more varied when we have more members.

I have noticed that some people look upon us as children playing games, you know what I mean. 'Oh well it keeps the darlings quiet for a little while', or 'I do wish they would leave it to us, we know what's best for them'. Please stop it, folks, it becomes a little monotonous after a while!

Having dismounted from my soap box, may I wish all other '62 Clubs new and old, all the success that the Bexley and District '62 Club is definitely going to have!



## Nottingham

NOTTINGHAM '62 Club is another leading light. Being formed just after London '62 Club makes it an 'old stager' so to speak. Unfortunately its previous Secretary, Miss Sheila Lead, caught this 'marriage bug' that is going round!—and her position has been taken over by Dr. Ron Firman (Dr. of Geology at Nottingham University), who, together with the Chairman, John Langdale, leads a very able committee. They have a membership of 90 with most of them attending the monthly Friday evening meeting at the Red Cross Centre, 143 Derby Road, Nottingham.

## Southend

SINCE forming themselves in October, 1963, the Southend '62 Club have had a very active and interesting life, they have gained the patronage of Miss Jessie Matthews (Mrs. Dale) and enjoy the security of having their own solicitor (I do hope they will not work him too hard). They have frequent meetings held at the New Church Hall... and are very pleased to entertain guests staying at the nearby Arundel Hotel.

## Bedford

THE Young Adult Spastics Club has been thriving now for a number of years, and since attending the '62 Club Conference last February has decided to adopt '62 Club principles; they now call themselves the Y.A.S. '62 Club. They meet every Friday evening, at Drayton House, 73 Bromham Road, Bedford, their programme takes in quite a few coach outings, and their social evenings are gaily organised by their own committee, led by Chairman, Susan Nash.

## Winchester

HAVE been in existence one year, and meet weekly on Wednesday from 7 p.m. till 9 p.m., at the Methodist Church Hall, Parchment Street, Winchester. There are in the region of 20 members, all enjoying their own social activities. I hesitate to say but the Chairman, Walter Brashaw, and the Secretary, Joyce, happen to be husband and wife!

## North West London

THEY have had a number of teething difficulties to get over, one of them being difficulty obtaining transport, as so many of their members are in wheelchairs, but this hasn't daunted them. They are meeting on the first Saturday in the month at Haverstock Hill, Hampstead.



# The '62 Club at Chester

by John J. Mingers

THE CHESTER Spastics Club has been in existence since January 1964, when a club was formed by a committee of the Chester and District Spastics' Association under the Chairmanship of Mrs. N. Williams, ably assisted by Mrs. Parry. It was formed to provide club facilities for the Trainees of the Chester Office Training Centre, most of whom were living in 'digs' in the Blacon district, and also local spastic teenagers and their many friends.

After a poor start, Miss Pat Lee of Leeds, was persuaded to become Club Organiser and, bingo! things started to go with a bang, or rather a 'whistle'.

Slowly the membership grew so that now there are about 40 members. Evenings consisted of club games, dances, juke box jury, quizzes and the like, and concerts by members. The highlight of that summer was the official opening by the Mayor of Chester, Alderman Miss Mary Heaney, who was most interested in the Club's activities and promised help.

The Autumn of 1964 was a very enjoyable time with a trip to Blackpool, Hallowe'en party, and of course, bonfire night.

At Christmas the Club members organised a party for some of the under-privileged children of the district.

After the sunshine, the storm, Pat decided to go home to Leeds and departed complete with 'whistle'. The doldrums really set in, but as the proverb has it, 'every cloud has a silver lining'. Mr. Dwelly arrived complete with wheelchair and started to take the Club in hand, and what very capable hands.

A committee was formed of the trainees and local spastics to administer the Club, with a shadow committee of Chester and District Spastics' Association members to ensure the very necessary continuity, as it is very off-putting to find that half the Committee has graduated from the Training Centre and gone off to pastures new.

The committee decided to open the doors to handicapped people of all ages and not confine it to spastics. This has helped to enlarge the Club and its activities. It has also been re-named The Chester '62 Club. Since then the Club nights have been a much more lively occasion with film shows (which, by the way, are given by Ian Dennis, a limbless chairbound cine enthusiast, who is also en-

gaged in making a 16 mm. sound film of the various doings of the Club.

Dances, bingo sessions, whist drives, record sessions, quizzes and talks by, among others, a policewoman sergeant, a fireman and a Chester City guide.

We are fortunate in having in Chester some up-and-coming pop groups and solo artistes, among whom are Tex Allen, Jed Winter, The Deacons, and many others who at the drop of a hat will come and play for us, some so well that we have grave doubts as to the safety of St. Chads Hall.

Our last outing was to Llanerch Dee Park and Zoo which was enjoyed by all.

Of course, I nearly forgot the visit of Mr. Bill Hargreaves with slides of the '62 Club camp, who gave us some useful tips on the running of a '62 Club, like making the handi-capped make and serve the cuppa. This they did for a week or two, but I notice that the willing slave, Mrs. Parry, seems to have got her old job back.

I cannot end without saying that without the help of our many friends in the District who come to our aid with transport, the Club would be a very quiet place with very few people in it. I will not name them individually, but just say 'Thank you one and all'.

To those who read this who are thinking how they can help spastics and other handi-capped people to spend an enjoyable evening, take the plunge—start a '62 Club, it is well worth the effort.

P.S.—Our willing slave, Mrs. Parry, is at home with a broken leg. We all wish her well and can we have a volunteer to make the teas?

*I think this is a marvellous idea to get other handicapped people into our Clubs. What do you think?—Ed.*

## South East Surrey

ARRIVED in November last year. Since then they have been busy passing the word around to attract new members. The Secretary, Miss Doreen Oake, together with the Chairman, Edwin Coombs, would extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to join them on Wednesday evenings at the Spastics Centre in Frenches Road, Redhill.

These are only a few items.

Don't be shy!

Write in and let us know what you are doing Ed



*Ian Dennis puts it all on film*

*Karen Bates—a Chester Office trainee from Hereford, acts as victim for Dick Jones, at a recent Magical Evening*



# Spastics tour European Capitals

FIFTY-TWO men and women from America, the majority in wheelchairs, landed at London Airport not long ago to spend a few days in London, before leaving for Paris and Rome.

Mr. W. M. C. Hargreaves (Club Organiser) and Mr. Peter West (Chairman of the '62 Club) spent an evening with them at their hotel and passed on to them the best wishes of spastic people in Great Britain. The Americans were very interested to hear of our '62 Clubs and fully believe in the Do-it-Yourself angle. They have started a Club in New York which is being run along similar lines.



*The President's idea of a welcome*



*The Chairman's idea of a welcome . . .*

*At their meeting in July, the '62 Club in London entertained a well known personality in the world of sport, Alec Bedser. We spent a most interesting and informative evening. Although the meeting was attended mostly by young men, I believe the maidens present were completely bowled over!*





# His First Walk for Five Years —To the Altar

## Hospital patients' Romance

CRIPPLED since 1941, 45-year-old John Phillips walked, this summer, for the first time in five years—into a church to marry the woman he met in a local spastics society, Miss Emily Rose Lane.

The ceremony took place at Holy Trinity Church, Roehampton, near Queen Mary's Hospital, where Mr. Phillips is a patient. His bride, a spastic since she was two, is a seamstress at the Queen Elizabeth Training College, Leatherhead.

The couple have known each other for two years, and have many friends at the Central Surrey Group of the Spastics Society, at Epsom, where they met. They had hoped to be married in the hospital chapel, but discovered that it was not licensed for marriage ceremonies. So the vicar of Holy Trinity, the Rev. Gerald Hudson, who is also the hospital chaplain, said they must marry in his church.

### Moving Ceremony

In the last few weeks Mr. Phillips was hard at work exercising for that very special walk. He was determined not to have to use a wheelchair, and the vehicle was duly left at the hospital. He walked out to the car, and



into the church, where two chairs were ready for the couple in front of the aisle.

In the church were some 40 friends from the local spastics group, including the best man, Mr. Harry Foster-Holt, of Ladbroke Road, Epsom, chairman of the group. Miss Lane was given away by Mr. E. Smith, principal of the Queen Elizabeth Training College.

(Story: Courtesy Epsom Times Herald)

## Gift of Ambulance to Cornwall



THE Cornish Spastics Society has received another gift from the Friends of Spastics League C063 Social Group. The presentation, a minibus type ambulance, was made during the St. Austell Silver Band Fête held at the Poltair Park. Last year the Society received the gift of a caravan for publicity and other uses.

The cost of the ambulance was borne largely from the proceeds of a 'Members' Night Out', held at the Foster Hall, Bodmin, last October. It was originally intended to purchase the ambulance after two years but a grant of £200 from the Good Neighbours Trust, enabled the vehicle to be bought in eight months.

## Suggested Contents of a Regional Office

BECAUSE of poor summer weather the only addition that can be dispensed with is a punkah or ceiling fan to cool the brow of the R.O. as he visits the office occasionally between outdoor appointments. (Make a note, Mrs. B, to apply for funds in next year's budget, in case the summer looks like being a good one.)

We require a paper-sorter to assist the secretary (girl school-leaver, with long arms) or perhaps Mr. Elwes will supply us with an extending arm to retrieve paper that slips off the mound in the 'IN' tray?

We made tea for an old lady visitor and answered the telephone at the same time. We mean AT THE SAME TIME. Watching wrestling on TV helps. So a Heath Robinson samovar next to the R.O.'s desk would be useful.

An essential feature is an ejection seat in the visitors' chair, with concealed button, to remove those gentlemen who think they are talking to the Sheltered Workshop manager and insist on explaining details of machinery to the R.O. (already late for another appointment!) Nice chaps, really.

And, of course, we must have a Mary Poppins method of bringing files from the cabinet to the desk by wishful thinking, when the secretary is typing the monthly report and mustn't be disturbed. It goes without saying that the R.O. is drained of all energy, having been at Group meetings four nights of the week. Have the automation firms any ideas?

We need a trolley, too, to hump the projector in and out and up and down the stairs. Motorised? (No, we hear Mr. Frank say, definitely not motorised.)

Ah yes, that reminds us; a strong man, part-time (sorry, no canteen facilities) to carry the display unit. Own transport preferred.

What's that, Mrs. B? Someone come to fix a safety net under the windows? We didn't order that!

I.C.R.A.

The Good Neighbours Trust is a private trust allied to the Friends of Spastics League, and one of the trustees, Mr. D. S. Arter, travelled from Bristol to make the presentation to the Chairman of the Cornish Spastics Society, Mr. Phillip Varcoe.

The ambulance will be placed, for the time being, at the Spastics Holiday Home at Par, where it will be used to provide transport from Par Station to the Home. Later it will be used at a residential home to be built in Cornwall, and it will then be used for transport all over the county.



# The North-East

by J. A. Loring, Assistant Director, Services to Spastics

NORTHUMBERLAND and Durham and the industrial area of the North Riding are usually known as 'the North-East'; an area which stretches from Berwick to Whitby and has a population of nearly 3,000,000. It has a climate, a spirit and a people all its own. It was once called the Land of the Three Rivers, the Tyne, Wear and Tees, but this picturesque description is somewhat misleading, evoking as it does a place of green valleys and soft stretches of flowing water and conflicts too sharply with the contrasting image of grime, obsolescence and decrepitude. In fact, the North-East is a marriage of both images. It is a place of great beauty and in places almost unbearable ugliness; the beauty of Northumberland, the wildest and most rural of English counties; the unpolished, unselfconscious charm of Newcastle and the unrelieved ugliness which at times seems to hover above like a large frightened bird; the soft beauty of Weardale, reached through the Durham Coalfield; the unfolding in the distance of the Cumbrian Mountains; these are only part of a great patchwork.

Historically, there are also contrasts. The Cathedral at Durham nursing the bones of St. Bede and St. Cuthbert. The Castle at Alnwick, home of the Percys from where Hotspur set out for the fight of Chevy Chase; Hadrian's Wall drawn across the most imposing of countrysides; the isthmus between Tyne and Solway. Northumberland was a land of castles; there were more to the square mile than anywhere else in England; at one time no fewer than 120. The North-East is also a seedbed of the Industrial Revolution; the cradle of the locomotive; the country of Robert Stephenson and Timothy Hackworth, fathers of the railway engine. The population is clotted in areas to the east of the region; Newcastle, South Shields, Sunderland, West Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Stockton and Darlington. Industry, hard and heavy, rules grimly and darkly and many of the older men cannot accept that permanent good can come of smart little factories making transistors and chemicals with long names. They also find it hard to accept that there can be genuine prosperity whilst coalmines continue to close down and shipyards face fierce international competition. These are the men whose forebears died from hunger whilst on strike in pathetic attempts to outlast their masters; who hewed coal that created great wilderness as of bricks and mortar and steel and smoke, which must now be replaced by

their sons and grandsons with something better, and the younger men have now enlisted architects like Basil Spence and Arne Jacobson to build anew.

They are a hard breed, the men of the North-East. Men who made up the 50th Division that fought its way out of the Gazada Trap in a direction opposite to everyone else; men who in the 30's marched the 300 miles from Jarrow to Westminster so that a nation might be reminded of their existence; even the Beat Groups are different and make a noise more raw and virile than that which comes from Merseyside.

To quote the White Paper on the North-East England 'The North-East is not a region in decline. It is a region in transformation'. More than 120 new production units, mostly in light industry, have been set up since the end of the war and the area can provide space, labour, factories at low rates and easy access to many raw materials and fuel. There are to be new towns at Cramlington, Washington, Peterlee, Newton Aycliffe and Killington where the whole town centre is to be enclosed under an air-conditioned tent-like structure.

But the North-East is faced with labour redundancies, with the need to replace large areas of decaying housing, with a system of communications and transport which is inadequate, and, with the normal population increase. Difficulties of this sort would not ordinarily present the best background for fund raising by charity yet Tyneside and Tees-side have always given generously and this is so today.

The Society has a good network of local centres in the region financed mainly from local sources.

The largest and the oldest of the Centres is Percy Hedley at Forest Hall on the outskirts of Newcastle. This comprises a School, Work Centre and a Hostel and well-developed assessment and outpatient facilities. The first children were admitted to the School in 1953. It then had accommodation for only 32 children, now it has 72 children of whom between 40 and 50 are boarders drawn from all the Northern Counties. The School claims that whilst it has to select the children for admission in terms of their intelligence it never refused to admit a child because of the severity of physical disability alone. Across the main road from the School is the Chipchase Work Centre and Hostel for 27 adult spastics. The Hostel was built with the help

of a generous grant from the Spastics Society and officially opened this year by the Duke of Northumberland. There is a newly-acquired site nearby for future development and Percy Hedley are already thinking of further expansion.

The next largest Centre is the day work Centre at Sunderland where the Duke of Edinburgh unveiled a plaque in March 1964. The Centre is for 18 adult spastics who attend daily and the main work is production of various types of coathangers; 70,000 of these were made during the last 10 months. The Centre also produces basket-bases, sews name tabs on to linen, makes tapestry and wool rugs. The Centre celebrate its second birthday in August, 1965, and could rightly look back upon a year of considerable achievement.

At Tees-side the Day Centre for 16 spastics, all of whom attend daily, is attached to Middlesbrough General Hospital Treatment Unit. It is expected that the Centre will eventually take up about 30 spastics. At present eight children are attending the Centre once a week for day care. The unit receives considerable support from the Tees-side Parents and Friends of Spastics Group which is also planning a work centre, but it is administered by the South Tees-side Hospital Management Committee.

At South Shields the local Group provides day care for six children at their Day Centre and at Darlington the Group has a house, in Redcar, divided into two flats which are let for holidays to spastics and their families.

Other Groups in the region are planning centres in the near future and the whole region benefits from the work of the P.H.C. which also extends into Westmorland and Cumberland.

It is cause of sadness to many that the Society has not established a residential centre in the North-East. Whilst the Society's centres draw their residents from all over England and Wales, it is, of course, better that spastics should live as near as possible to their own homes and those of their families, but unfortunately, an extensive property hunt in the North-East produced no large houses which were ideally situated and suitable for conversion into centres. But the search continues and one hopes that in the not too distant future the North-East may have its 'own' Centre.

The North-East recently ceased to be a region of the Society. The old region, after detaching the East and West Ridings to form the Yorkshire region, combined with Cumberland and Westmorland to form the new Northern Region. This provides a closer identity of interests and is perhaps a more rational arrangement, and industrial Tyneside and Tees-side to which the Society owes so much is now one with the mountains, the valleys and the lakes of Cumbria. No doubt both sides of the Pennines will benefit but it would be less than human if none were to lament the passing of the OLD 'North-East.'





## Clever O.T.

OCCUPATIONAL therapy can be fun as well as useful, as these pleasant pictures show. Patients of Miss Audrey Reid of Darlington, demonstrate a range of skills.

Above, left, Reginald Kirby, St. John of God Hospital, Scorton, Richmond, makes cords and dog leads on a specially made stand. Above, right, Joe Fish, also a patient at St. John of God Hospital, uses broken pottery and shells to decorate a jar, sticking the pieces into putty. The bottles he makes are also used as lamp bases.

Left: John Tinsley (standing) and John (Ginger) Keenan, of St. Cuthbert's Hospital, Croft, Darlington, made their own Easter bonnets. No good being surprised by anything John Tinsley does, goodness knows, but that really is a very fetching hat.

### The Executive Committee The Spastics Society

At the Society's Annual General Meeting on 23rd October, 1965, the three retiring members were elected to the Executive Committee—Miss J. Garwood, Mr. R. A. Jupp, Mr. J. L. Petersen.

Friendship should be built up out of mutual trust and respect; it is no use trying to change someone's character just because one doesn't like or approve of what he or she is or does, one must learn to tolerate and understand one's friends point of view, even if not agreeing with it. This is where the line between friendship and acquaintanceship must branch out.

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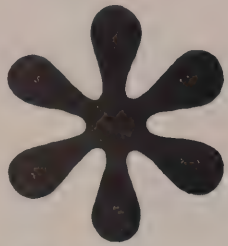
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## Friendship

by Doreen James

FRIENDSHIP is one of the most precious gifts one can have. Most people have a great many acquaintances but very few real friends. One misses an awful lot in life if one cannot make friends. It is not easy to make a real friend, as this means giving, not just material things, but giving of one's self, revealing one's thoughts, and perhaps concealing them at the appropriate moment.





## NEWS FROM \*\*\* SCHOOLS AND \*\*\*\*\* CENTRES



### Aboard 'The Orcades'

SEVEN pupils from the Thomas Delarue School were guests on board the P. & O. liner *Orcades* at Tilbury recently, after Mr. Tudor had formally been presented with a minibus for the school, which had been bought from money collected by passengers and crew during recent voyages. This amounted to over £1,000.

The purser, Mr. Miles and Mr. Albert James, crew barman, together with members of the crew, escorted the party over the ship.

Lance Green (head boy), Malcolm Clark (prefect), Raymond Samuel, Diana Ratledge,

Hilary Bunston, Christopher Day and John Wilkinson, with the help of a house mother, Miss Griggs and of Mr. Pierce, who drove them to the docks in the minibus, were shown over the lounges and cabins of the liner, which was being prepared for a 14-day cruise in the sun, prior to a three-month trip to Australia. The ship has a capacity of 1,600 passengers and 600 crew and is like a self-contained small town when at sea, with its own printing room, bakery, butcher's shop, hairdresser's, barber's and passengers' shop.

Capt. E. G. K. Riddelsdell, R.D., R.N.R., talked to the pupils during tea, which was taken in the ship's dining room, when Mr. Tudor presented the ship with an ash-tray made at the school.

### Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, 1965

THIS year four boys and two girls at the Thomas Delarue School obtained the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, and four boys the Silver Award.

Their interests ranged from woodcarving to photography, archery, natural history and horse-riding, and their service from First Aid and Police work, to spending a week helping to redecorate a home for mentally handicapped children in Belgium.

#### Bronze Award:

Susan Stevenson; Rosamund Maxwell Browne; David Lane; Philip Walker; Terry Clark; Clifford Haynes.

#### Silver Award:

Christopher Day; Christopher Bulling; Michael Nash; Michael Chope.

### Colwall Court

THIS famous holiday hotel, run by the Stars' Organisation for Spastics for 18 spastic children at a time, has a few Christmas holiday bookings still available.

Colwall Court is a children's hotel—takes nobody over 15. It's not in fact a suitable place for the mentally handicapped child, because it is all geared up to give a rattling good holiday to spastic children (of any de-

gree of physical handicap) who are able to enjoy the many good-time gimmicks and the company of each other. Children in wheelchairs are welcome, with or without their own helpers—Mr. and Mrs. Marsh, who run the hotel, prefer children without helpers simply because that way they can pack more children in. The children share rooms. There is a lift which takes wheelchairs. There is a trained staff and a night nurse and a lot of fun to be had.

Write to Mr. Marsh, the Manager, Colwall Court, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, to book for Christmas or next summer. Fees are £3 13s. 6d. weekly for children, adults by arrangement, for one- or two-week holidays.



## Wilfred Pickles School—Duke of Edinburgh Awards

*Duke of Edinburgh Award winners at the Wilfred Pickles School.*

*Left to right, G. Allinson (Bronze); Audrey Williamson (Silver); Alan Campbell (Silver); Terry Barton (Silver); John Cole (Bronze); Roger Young (Bronze); David Harley (Silver)*



## Volunteers Help Spastics

TWELVE members of the International Voluntary Service spent a fortnight at Prested Hall, Essex, not long ago, doing renovation work on new gardens and a lawn there.

French, Swedish, Dutch, American, British and Irish members were represented in the

Group, who put in a working day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mr. Watson, Warden of Prested, said, 'This is the fifth time in six years that we have had members of the I.V.S. and they put in a tremendous amount of work always.'

The volunteers also carried out outside and inside decoration work. They provided their own entertainment, folk and ballad song enthusiasts rendering items from their native land.



## Training for Assembly Work at Sherrards

MICHAEL PEARSON from Basildon, Essex, and Hugh Watt from Bristol, busily engaged on the assembly of five-way telephone hand sets.

Michael, although mobile, needs to sit at his work and, from the picture, it can be seen that both hands are being used correctly for holding the main body and manipulating the small screwdriver.

Hugh is using his right hand on assembly of connection blocks. Here a one-handed operator can be used by the introduction of simple location pegs mounted on the bench to keep the block fixed. Drawings of the parts being assembled are attached to the wall of the Workshop. These are used by the instructors when explaining the production methods.

The trainees are taught general tidiness, and the small tools on the wall are checked when work is finished for the day. At the rear of the bench are the electric sockets for soldering irons and the electric hand tools. The assembly fixture on the bench is for the assembly of spring sets seen towards the front of the picture.



# Challenge Holiday

by Sheila Gould

UPON receiving an invitation to join our Chalet Holiday, at Chapel St. Leonards, near Skegness, one person imagined that we would be almost camping in utility conditions. She was wholly unprepared to see our very modern well-equipped Chalet, which had been rented for a fortnight from the National Cripples Journal's Organisation on our behalf by the Society's Holiday Organiser.

The Chalet—built of cedarwood, with wide windows—had bedroom accommodation for eight, plus two adaptable settees in the lounge. The dining-area-cum-kitchen was divided by a convenient storage division. We had a large sideboard, electric cooker and refrigerator loaned to us by the local Electricity Board, and a TV set.

On 23rd August, travellers from Cardiff, Cleethorpes, Birmingham, Nottingham and London were greeted by two people from Headquarters, who had spent a few days preparing for our arrival, making useful contacts and providing a meal of welcome.

Gradually the feeling of strangeness faded away, and plans were made to explore possibilities of outings in the neighbourhood. Our first visit was to a beach hut which had been booked for us, in a central position, to discover that—a typical gesture of local kindness—the owner, Mrs. Bishop, had left two bottles of fruit squashes and sweets for us to enjoy.

Fortunately there were some shops near the Chalet Park entrance and so each morning Tony Ellis from Cleethorpes, one of the early risers, would fetch our milk and bread. Tony also delighted himself by doing such jobs as laying the tables and making his bed—which he had not done before. The second week of our holiday, he ventured into a newspaper office and arranged for a letter of thanks to be printed in the local press, and organised two outings to the Arcadia Theatre in Skegness, where Ronnie Hilton topped the bill. Tony's own comment about the holiday was, 'It has been the biggest challenge of my life.'

Among other spastic people in our Chalet was Billy Dandy, who hails from Cardiff and is at the Thomas Delarue School. Billy surprised other chalet holiday-makers by his sheer determination to overcome this handicap—from conquering the difficulty of getting into the saddle of a Social Ride Vehicle to walking literally miles.

Barbara Rogers from Nottingham daily

gave us a demonstration of twisting whilst doing her share of kitchen chores.

John Norman of Birmingham did some very useful errands for us in his Invacar, and spent two days exploring Lincoln and Lincolnshire.

Sheila Gould from London, just did a bit to keep everybody happy. (At least tried to do so!)

Thanks to the generosity of the Office Manager of Butlins Camp, Ingoldmells, we were allowed a 'Free Day Pass' which enabled us to enjoy a most hilarious day among so many fun-making amenities. Billy and John charted a vessel on the boating lake—their efforts to keep afloat were comical, but even more amusing to the onlookers were their antics to overcome the business of getting ashore!

Other exciting outings were to a 'Search for Stars' evening at the Festival Pavilion in Skegness and a 'Gala Night' by another boating lake which included a display of fireworks. We enjoyed this sitting in deck chairs, muffled in warmest clothing and rugs to defy the wind whipping inland.

We had fun, we did our own chores, we shared life together for twelve days in a chalet. None of the challenges we met would make headlines in the press, but we can claim to be the first to have done it.

We heartily recommend this type of holiday, if the chalet is booked next year. Will you come?

## Conference on Welfare Services for the Physically Handicapped

**Bournemouth, 10th-11th November, 1965**

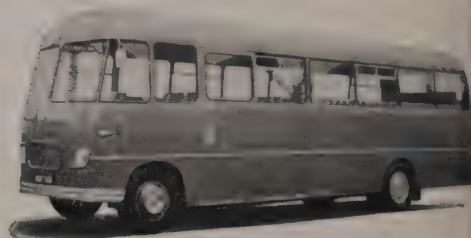
THE CENTRAL COUNCIL for the Disabled is organising a two-day study conference to take place at the Pavilion, Bournemouth, on Wednesday and Thursday, 10th and 11th November, starting each day at 9.30 a.m.

Under the chairmanship of Sir Walter Puckey, speakers will be heard on many aspects of welfare for the Disabled, including, Work Centres, Sheltered Workshops, Domiciliary Welfare Services, Accommodation for the Disabled, and the Role of Voluntary Organisations in Local Authority Welfare Services.

In addition there will be group discussions on subjects such as aids, visiting, holidays; and the Central Council exhibition of Clothing for the Disabled will be on view.

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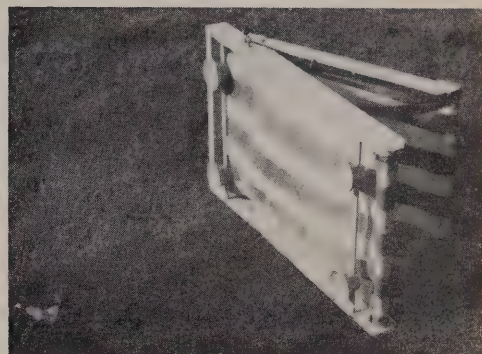
SPASTICS NEWS, NOVEMBER 1965





# G

IMMICKS



(Above, left), I was able to find this gay red check mackintosh cover for Mrs. Edwards who needs to take Carol out in all weathers. It costs £1 12s. 0d. from J. & A. Carters Limited, 65 Wigmore Street, London W.1

(Above, right), While I was visiting Mrs. Edwards, she showed me Carol's bath aid which I took into the garden to photograph. Notice how it collapses and has large rubber suckers to grip the bath

(Far left), Another home-made invention is Raymond's walking aid. Raymond comes from Northampton and uses a walking aid with a difference—it folds up and was invented by his father. It collapses for putting in a car boot or for taking it on a 'bus

(Left), Here is a little boy assessing an Australian invention called the Bouncinette. However, he much prefers it the other way round with a pillow case pulled on to it. By using his hands he can bounce up and down. The Bouncinette costs 58s. 11d. from Griffin, Lewin & Co. Ltd., 30 Notting Hill Gate, London W.11

Danish Ankle Supports submitted by Mrs. J. M. Breiner, can be supplied on the National Health. A doctor from the Ministry of Health, Blackpool, writes: 'I am assured that these can be supplied under the normal centre contracting service of the National Health Service. I believe they already are supplied either in their original form or with various modifications which are thought necessary by the individual Consultant prescribing the prosthesis. There should, therefore, be absolutely no difficulty in any patient who needs them obtaining them'

Congratulations to those who have ideas and thanks for letting me have them to pass on.

I would be glad to publish any other original ideas if you would send them to me, The Appliance Officer, 12 Park Crescent, W.1.







# SLOW MOTION

## Chapter IX

by Ann Pearce

DURING one of my holidays at home my mother suggested to me that I might like to go to a Faith Meeting with her. She had mentioned it before but I wasn't keen. This time I felt I should go along with her as she so obviously wanted me to. Before we were ready to go to the meeting my thoughts were about what might happen there. For such a long time I had dreamed of the day I would get out of my wheelchair and walk that now I felt this miracle was within my reach I was a little frightened. Perhaps by singing to the Glory of God and the words of blessing being said over my head I would be healed. But I needn't have worried, no physical miracle was to happen to me that evening, although I thought I had convinced myself that it would. In quite a different way I think I shall always feel the benefit of that meeting; perhaps it gave me an insight into what faith means or perhaps it just suggested to me ideas that I had never thought about before. During the meeting it came to me that perhaps my faith was at fault, perhaps I hadn't thought deeply about it and if this was missing in my life then I needed it to be physically normal. On my return home I felt so strongly about this that I wanted to walk upstairs on my own, but of course this wasn't possible, I must accept my dad's help and learn that faith works its own miracle in its own time.

For the next two years my thoughts were on this matter a great deal. During this time perhaps a miracle did happen, not physically but mentally in the sense that I was able to understand more about my handicap and how to cope with it. I concentrated all my efforts on walking during my free time, with the aid of walking bars, etc., but our physiotherapist, when he realised what I was striving to do, pointed out to me how putting all my effort into trying to walk was affecting my speech, and making my athetoid movements even more wild, also I developed a rash which even now returns sometimes. He explained that to keep what control I had of my hands was far more valuable to me than to be able to walk—after all I had spent my life in a wheelchair and could get around in it quite independently. The sense of his remarks has been of great benefit to me.

I come from a Church of England family and was confirmed while still at school, this was the thing to do at school for the girls at about 15 years of age. My parents were quite

agreeable and I attended the training classes and the service with my friends. I didn't know if I would have the opportunity again in the future. Although here at Coombe Farm we have a short service every Sunday, some while ago a friend introduced five of us to the Baptist Church of which she was a member, and since then I have appreciated being able to attend services there when it has been possible for us to go. In my view the church building is unimportant. Whatever denomination it is, it is still the House of God and during times of trouble I know that my prayers will be listened to.

I keep a five-year diary too. I write in this each evening of my prayers.

### CHAPTER X

In 1961 when I was 19-years-old I knew for sure that my father had cancer, although I had had an idea that this was the cause of his continual bouts of illness. When the matron told me how serious the situation was I couldn't believe it because I really didn't want to, but facts have to be faced. In my mind dad was too young to face death; life was only starting for him. John and Michael would be dependent on him for many years for the things that only a father can give his sons. Dad was proud of the boys and had great ambitions for them. He had a wonderful sense of humour and always had a joke ready; he loved mum with all his heart and he knew that his illness was forcing extra strain on her.

At this particular time we had just become business people. My parents now owned a greengrocer's shop. They were so proud that the shop belonged to them after many years of hard work and saving. Dad had a van for deliveries and the boys loved going round with dad to knock on the doors and hope to get tips! and afterwards laughing at dad's imitation of the customers, he was a great mimic. My first visit to my new home surprised me very much. Knowing nothing about the running of such a business I didn't realise how much work went into it in order to keep things going smoothly. My parents working day by day no means finished when the shop closed. My father would read the paper before having his evening meal and then would come the checking of stock, making out bills, counting the day's takings, and so many other jobs. When my mother had finished downstairs there was a meal for

her family to be prepared before the boy came home from school starving, and the she helped dad with the books.

Christmas 1961 was a Christmas I shall never forget. Although the shop was a success and we were able to enjoy all the good things one could wish for, there was a cloud over our family although we all tried to pretend it wasn't there. Dad's health was worse. He was living on drugs to ease the pain and had no wish for anything but to rest in bed. We knew that he hadn't long to live. As in the past Christmas morning was a great thrill to my brothers and myself; as for all children the highlight was ripping open presents. People must have spent hours wrapping them up, but it only took us minutes to litter the bedroom floor with paper. I always had the most presents so I always opened a few of mine earlier to make it look even.

We watched the Queen's speech on television that afternoon but we watched without dad. He was too ill to come to the sitting room. This was a sad time as before the family had always made a special effort to watch together. On Boxing Day we always had visitors and this particular year dad's relations came as usual. My mother must have known, and somehow that day the truth came to me also, that this would be the last Christmas dad would be spending with his family. As he wasn't well enough to be downstairs we spent part of the day upstairs in his room where he was more comfortable. Although I could have got up the stairs on my own I didn't want mother to see me do it on that particular day because I knew it would upset her that my dad was not able to help me any more, and so my brother took his place. He was very much out of breath at the top but we managed it. After our guests had gone home it so happened that dad and I were left on our own for a while and it seemed as if in that short time we really got to know each other for the first time. Being handicapped and being a girl I suppose it was natural I should be closer to my mother. Because I had spent so much time away from home I had missed something in the relationship that would normally exist between father and daughter—to start with he found it difficult to understand my speech which inevitably became a barrier, and then a war injury had left him with a weak stomach and although I try hard to feed myself as cleanly as possible some



times there is a mess which would upset him, so that to save embarrassment we ate separately.

On my return to Coombe Farm I continued my weekly telephone calls home to have a chat and keep up with the family news, but now my first question always was, 'How's dad?' In January I had a week-end at home. It was very soon after Christmas but I particularly wanted to go. At this time I was feeling the frustration of being an older daughter but handicapped and away from home and therefore not able to support my family in the way I would have liked. Had I been normal there was so much I could do—look after the shop and leave my mother free to look after dad, help with the domestic chores—so many things it was hard to accept the fact that I couldn't do these things. I knew my mother's health wasn't so good and constantly feared what would happen if she was ill too. It is a good thing we don't know what the future has in store for us. This particular weekend lasted longer than I anticipated as I was ill with 'flu soon after my arrival and at the end of the week a telephone call came from Coombe Farm asking my mother if I could possibly stay another week as there were a lot of residents ill with 'flu there and the matron thought it unwise for me to return.

Although I have lived away from home nearly all my life I still hate the idea of saying 'good-bye' and always feel a bit homesick. This time was no different. Normally my brother, John, took me to the station but this time dad made a tremendous effort to drive me in the van. My mother tried to persuade him not to, she knew how ill he was, but he was determined. While we were waiting for the train dad pushed my footboard into place on my chair for me as it had worked loose, then he kissed me good-bye and said, 'be a good girl' as he had always done over the years, and the train moved out of the station, and that was the last time I saw him.

## North London Centre for Handicapped Children

MATRON with appropriate qualifications required on full-time basis to supervise new day care and treatment centre for handicapped children to be opened shortly. Salary in accordance with Whitley Scale £770-£1,005 per annum, starting point determined by qualification and experience. The post is superannuable. Enthusiasm and a wealth of energy will be regarded as added qualifications. Applications in writing with details of age, education, qualifications and experience and the names of two referees to be sent immediately to P. P. Rigby, Chairman Hornsey Trust for Handicapped Children at 14 Creighton Avenue, London N.10.

# Eldon Youth Club

## for the Physically Handicapped

by Wilf Ward



THIS bowling alley picture shows just one of the many activities of our club which was founded in 1960 by Miss Jean Garwood (who is now our President) at which time there were 15 members. During the six years the club has been operating our membership has risen to approximately 100 and, it is now run by a committee of some of our members. About 60 per cent are spastics, 27 of these being residents of Coombe Farm.

We try to include the activities of a normal youth club, in spite of the fact that many of us are confined to wheelchairs. Last November one of our young ladies represented Great Britain in the Paralympic Games and was awarded two gold medals, she was given a welcome reception by the club which was attended by Paul Nihill, the Olympic Silver Medal Walker, who we are now proud to have as our Vice-President.

We are helped considerably by the New Addington and Palace Green branches of Toc H, who supply our transport, raise funds and as their Jubilee Year gesture, have obtained a minibus for us.

The club seems to be enrolling members from more outlying districts and we feel that our membership could be increased even

further. New members are welcome. Write to me at 102 Alexandra Road, East Croydon, Surrey, if you would like to join.

### URGENTLY NEEDED

An 8mm. Projector to hire or buy. If anyone can help, please contact Mrs. Ollman, Social Work and Employment Department, The Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, London W1.

THE Dean of Westminster Abbey has informed the Society that the collection at Matins on Boxing Day is to be made for the benefit of Spastics

Neighbours of the Shrewsbury Group's holiday bungalow at Prestatyn—that is families living on the same estate, not members of any Spastics Society—have been supplying the bungalow with flowers and confectionery all through the summer.





### PEN FRIENDS WANTED

Dear Editor,

I am a spastic of 32 years and should like to exchange letters with a foreign boy or girl stricken with a similar fate. Can you aid me to find such a friend either in Great Britain or in another country? I should thank you for this help very much.

OLDRICH FIKEIS,  
313 Skolska ul.,  
Castolovice,  
okr. Rychnov n. Kn.,  
Czechoslovakia.

Dear Editor,

I wonder if you could help me to find a boy pen friend. I am 21 years old and my hobbies are going to the pictures and collecting records.

DIANE CASSELTON,  
51 Tamworth Lane,  
Mitcham, Surrey.

### TRICYCLE OFFERED

Dear Editor,

Recently I noticed the advertisement in the SPASTICS NEWS requesting a tricycle suitable for a child aged 12-14 years. I answered this advertisement, but fortunately the people had managed to obtain a tricycle locally.

I write now to say that we have such a tricycle here in very good condition which the local Spastics' Society do not require.

I wonder whether if you advertised this in your paper some parent may be glad to have it. Please would they apply to:—

Miss M. M. Hutchinson, Headmistress,  
Fordhall School, Fordham Road, Ford

Estate, Sunderland, who will gladly arrange for it to be transported.

SYBIL A. B. WARD,  
Senior Assistant School Medical Officer.

### LETTER TO OUR CHRISTMAS SEALS DEPARTMENT

Dear Sir,

I wish you would not send this sort of stuff to me as I feel blackmailed into sending it back to you instead of slinging it in the waste paper basket. As it happens there is not a spastic in my family but the family next door look pretty sure to produce several. In which case I consider it is their job and not mine to look after them.

You may have a very cute accountant but I pay crippling taxes to save half the country from working and the rest to get free schooling, medical attention, etc. I find it incredible that on top of the taxes which are taken from me you and others like you expect me to pay to stop cancer, stop parents being cruel to children, people being cruel to animals, build lifeboats, cure spastics, support innumerable benevolent societies, finance the Salvation Army, build new towers on churches and/or repair their roofs and the

final crazy request to feed bloody niggers a over the world.

Please remove me from the list forthwith as I am sick and tired of receiving these sort of things. Why *should* my family do without so that I can chuck money all over the shop to help people who should help themselves

*We think the chap has an uneasy conscience as well as a charming nature. The collector's piece is offered as a curio merely*

### Winter and Spring Holidays

The Holiday Bungalow of the Shrewsbury Group, at PRESTATYN, is available now for bookings from all Groups up to and including May, 1966. Applications from outside Shropshire should be recommended or endorsed by the local Group. The bungalow is rent-free. Enquiries to Mr. D. C. Gardner, 'Causbay', 12 Mytton Oak Road, Shrewsbury.

## BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER●●●●●

### NOVEMBER

1st	Little Hulton Cons., Manchester Road, Little Hulton, Manchester	J. Re
1st	Courtybella Works Club, Cardiff Road, Newport, Mon.	F. Davi
2nd	Hindley Green Social Club, Hindley Green, Wigan	J. Re
2nd	British Legion Club, Manor Road, Ammanford, Carms.	F. Davi
3rd	Deane Cons. Club, Raven Road, Deane, Bolton	J. Re
3rd	Cymmer Welfare Hall, Porth, Rhondda, Glam.	F. Davi
4th	Smithills Cons. Club, New Barn, Chorley Old Road, Bolton	J. Re
4th	Liberal Club, Murray Street, Llanelly, Carms.	F. Davi
5th	St. Williams Club, Patricroft Road, Higher Ince, Wigan	J. Re
5th	Romsey Cons. Assoc., Market Place, Romsey, Hants.	F. Davi
8th	Howley Hall Golf Club, Scotchman Lane, Morley, Leeds	J. Re
9th	Birstall Cons. Club, Low Lane, Birstall, nr. Leeds	J. Re
9th	Liberal Club, Micklehurst Road, Mossley, Manchester	K. Kennerle
10th	Hanging Heaton Cricket Club, Bennett Lane, Batley, Yorks.	J. Re
10th	Ewloe Social Club, Mold Road, Ewloe, Chester, Cheshire	K. Kennerle
11th	Harehills Liberal Club, Foundry Approach, Leeds	J. Re
12th	Eastwood Cons. Club, Dalton Lane, Keighley, Yorks.	J. Re
15th	British Legion Club, Beverley Road, Fallowfield, Manchester	J. Re
16th	Castleton Cons. Club, Newchurch Street, Castleton, Rochdale	J. Re
16th	Mill Lane Workmen's Club, South Kirkby, nr. Pontefract, Yorks.	J. Gardne
17th	Labour Club, Church Street, Little Lever, nr. Bolton, Lancs.	J. Re
17th	Hoyland Common Workmen's Club, Fitzwilliam Street, Hoyland, Barnsley	J. Gardne
18th	Walmersley Golf Club, Garretts Close, Walmersley, Bury	J. Re
18th	Kirkstall Rec. Club, Commercial Road, Leeds	J. Gardner & W. Smit
18th	Cons. Club, Ashley Lane, Lymington, Hants.	F. Davi
19th	Cons. Club, Burton Road, West Didsbury, Manchester	J. Re
22nd	Cons. Club, Market Street, Hindley, Wigan	J. Re
23rd	Palatine Club, St. James Place, Waterfoot, Rossendale, Lancs.	J. Re
24th	Tonge Moor Labour Club, Ainsworth Lane, Bolton	J. Re
24th	Lutterworth Club, Leicester Road, Lutterworth, nr. Rugby	J. Garner & K. Kennerle
25th	Grimsargh Club, Preston Road, Grimsargh, Preston	J. Re
25th	Ericssons Sports Club, Telephone Works, Beeston, Nottingham	J. Gardner & K. Kennerle
26th	Cons. Club, Ribby Road, Kirkham, nr. Preston	J. Re
29th	Engineering Club, Withers Street, Radcliffe, Manchester	J. Re
30th	Longsight Cricket Club, East Road, Longsight, Manchester	J. Re



# SCHOOLS AND CENTRES ADDRESSES

## SCHOOLS

### THE CRAIG-Y-PARC SCHOOL

Penttyrch, Nr. Cardiff.  
Telephone: Penttyrch 397.  
Headmistress: Mrs. C. M. Kearslake.

### THE THOMAS DELARUE SCHOOL

Starvecrow, Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge, Kent.  
Telephone: Tonbridge 4584.  
Headmaster: G. D. C. Tudor, Esq., M.A.

### INGFIELD MANOR SCHOOL

Five Oaks, Nr. Billingshurst, Sussex.  
Telephone: Billingshurst 2294.  
Headmistress: Miss E. M. Varty.

### IRTON HALL SCHOOL

Holmrook, Cumberland.  
Telephone: Wasdale 202.  
Headmaster: John Nelson, Esq.

### THE WILFRED PICKLES SCHOOL

Tixover Grange, Duddington, Nr. Stamford.  
Telephone: Duddington 212.  
Headmaster: R. A. Pedder, Esq.

### FURTHER EDUCATION CENTRE

Dene Park, Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge, Kent.  
Telephone: Tonbridge 5101/2.  
Principal: P. K. Mayhew, Esq., M.A.

## ASSESSMENT CENTRE

### HAWKSWORTH HALL

Guiseley, Leeds, Yorks.  
Telephone: Guiseley 2914.  
Principal: J. D. Johnson, Esq.

## ADULT CENTRES

### INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRE

#### SHERARDS

Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Herts.  
Telephone: Welwyn Garden 22125.  
Principal: V. King, Esq., M.I.Prod.E.,  
M.I.Wks.M.

### CHESTER OFFICE TRAINING CENTRE

Western Avenue, Off Saughall Road, Blacon,  
Cheshire.  
Telephone: Chester 26987.

#### Stockport Branch

Granville House, Parsonage Road, Heaton Moor,  
Stockport.  
Telephone: Heaton Moor 8776.  
Principal: Mrs. V. S. Parker.

### WAKES HALL (S.O.S.)

Wakes Colne, Nr. Colchester, Essex.  
Telephone: Earls Colne 476.  
Warden: E. T. Warne, Esq.

### PRESTED HALL & THE GRANGE

Feering, Kelvedon, Essex.  
Telephone: Kelvedon 482.  
Warden: J. H. Watson, Esq.

### COOMBE FARM

Oaks Road, Croydon, Surrey.  
Telephone: Addiscombe 2310.  
Warden: F. W. Bowyer, Esq., M.A.

### PONDS HOME

Seer Green, Beaconsfield, Bucks.  
Telephone: Jordans 2398/9.  
Warden: Mrs. C. Brown.

### BUXTON CENTRE: 'THE BEDFORD'

St. John's Road, Buxton, Derbyshire.  
Telephone: Buxton 3541.  
Warden: D. H. Simpson, Esq.

### OAKWOOD CENTRE

High Street, Kelvedon, Essex.  
Telephone: Kelvedon 208.  
Warden: J. H. Watson, Esq.  
Tutor/Organiser: Miss M. L. Garaway, M.A.

### JACQUES HALL CENTRE

Bradfield, Nr. Manningtree, Essex.  
Telephone: WIX 311.  
Warden: V. P. Devonport, Esq.

### DARESBURY HALL

Daresbury, Nr. Warrington, Lancs.  
Telephone: Moore 359.  
Warden: F. W. Bellman, Esq.

### KYRE PARK HOUSE

Tenbury Wells,  
Worcs.  
Telephone: Kyre 282.  
Warden: W. R. Barley, Esq.

## HOLIDAY HOTELS

### ARUNDEL PRIVATE HOTEL

23 The Leas, Westcliff-on-Sea.  
Telephone: Southend 476351.  
Manageress: Miss M. Burden.

### THE BEDFONT HOLIDAY HOTEL

Marine Parade West, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.  
Telephone: Clacton 25230.  
Warden: Mrs. J. P. R. Molyneaux.

### S.O.S. HOLIDAY HOTEL FOR SPASTIC CHILDREN

Colwall Court, Bexhill.  
Telephone: Bexhill 1491.  
Manager: G. H. Marsh, Esq.

## FAMILY HELP UNIT

### THE MOUNT

Elm Bank, Nottingham.  
Telephone: Nottingham 66271-2.  
Warden: P. E. Habieb, Esq.

## STAFF TRAINING CENTRE

### CASTLE PRIORY COLLEGE

Thames Street,  
Wallingford, Berks.  
Telephone: Wallingford 2551.  
Principal and Director of Studies:  
Mrs. J. W. Knowles, B.A.

## Schools Affiliated to The Spastics Society

### BIRKENHEAD SCHOOL

43 Shrewsbury Road, Oxtou, Birkenhead.  
Telephone: Claughton 2583.  
Headmistress: Mrs. M. Collinge, B.A.

### BIRTENSHAW HALL SCHOOL

Darwen Road, Bromley Cross, Bolton.  
Telephone: Eagley 230.  
Headmaster: D. A. Hiles, Esq.

### DAME HANNAH ROGERS SCHOOL

Ivybridge, Devon.  
Telephone: Ivybridge 461.  
Headmistress: Miss B. G. Sutcliffe.

### PERCY HEDLEY SCHOOL

Forest Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne 12.  
Telephone: Newcastle 66-5491/2.  
Headmaster: D. D. Johnston, Esq., M.A., M.Ed.

### ST. MARGARET'S SCHOOL

Coombe Road,  
Croydon, Surrey.  
Telephone: Croydon 1434.  
Headmistress: Miss M. A. Budd.



# LOCAL GROUP PROVISION

## NORTH REGION

Barrow-in-Furness and District Spastic and Handicapped Children's Society C  
Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness Spastics Society WORTH  
Darlington and District Spastics Society H  
Durham and District Spastics Society  
South Shields and District Spastics Society C  
Sunderland and District Spastics Society CW  
Tees-side Parents and Friends of Spastics TE

### Regional Office:

145 Front St., Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham.  
Tel.: 2852

## YORKSHIRE REGION

Barnsley and District Association EC  
Bradford and District Branch  
Castleford and District Spastics Committee  
Dewsbury and District Spastics Society  
Goole and District Spastics Association  
Halifax and District Spastics Society W  
Huddersfield and District Spastics Society O  
Hull Group, The Friends of the Spastics Society H  
in Hull and District  
Leeds and District Spastics Society O  
Pontefract and District Spastics Association  
Rawmarsh and Parkgate Spastics Society  
Sheffield and District Spastics Society TEOC  
York and District Spastics Group TC

### Regional Officer:

R. J. F. Whyte, Royal Chambers, Station Parade,  
Harrogate. Tel.: 69655

## NORTH-WESTERN REGION

Birkenhead Spastic Children's Society TEOC  
Blackburn and District Spastics Group TWC  
Blackpool and Fylde Spastics Society W  
Bollington, Macclesfield and District Group  
Bolton and District Spastics Society TE  
Burnley Area and Rossendale Spastics Group T  
Caernarvonshire Spastics and Handicapped Peoples' Society  
Chester and District Spastics Association  
Colwyn Bay and District Spastics Society  
Crewe and District Spastics Society TEO  
Crosby, Bootle, Litherland & District Spastics Society C  
Flint and District Spastics Society  
Lancaster, Morecambe and District Spastics Soc.  
Manchester and District Spastics Society TCE  
Montgomeryshire Spastics Society  
Oldham and District Spastics Society OCT  
Preston and District Spastics Group OCT  
Sale, Altrincham and District Spastics Society RTEC  
Southport, Formby and District Spastics Soc. H  
Stockport, East Cheshire and High Peak Spastics Society TEOC  
Urmston and District Group TC  
Warrington and District Group for the Welfare of Spastics O  
Widnes Spastic Fellowship Group  
Wigan and District Spastics Society

### Regional Officer:

T. H. Keighley, Room 481, 4th Floor, St. James' Buildings, Oxford Street, Manchester 1.  
Tel.: Central 2088

### Deputy Regional Officer:

F. Young, 6 King's Buildings, Chester.  
Tel.: 27127

### Regional Social Worker:

Mrs. M. Moncaster, same address as Mr. Keighley

## EAST MIDLAND REGION

Boston District Branch  
Chesterfield and District Spastics Society TOC  
Derby and District Spastics Society T  
Grantham and District Friends of Spastics  
Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Friends of Spastics Society  
Leicester and Leicestershire Spastics Society TC  
Lincoln and District Spastics Society  
Loughborough and District Spastics Society  
Mansfield and District Friends of Spastics Group O  
Newark Area Spastics Society  
Northampton and County Spastics Society TE  
Nottingham and District Friends of Spastics Group TEC  
Scunthorpe and District Spastic Society  
Stamford and District Spastics Society

### Regional Office:

9 Regent Street, Nottingham.  
Tel.: 42198  
Mrs. M. Lane, same address

## WEST MIDLAND REGION

Coventry and District Spastics Society RO  
Dudley and District Spastic Group TOC  
Herefordshire Spastics Society  
Kidderminster and District Spastics Association  
Midland Spastic Association TEOWC  
North Staffordshire Spastic Association TO  
Shrewsbury and District Spastics Group H  
Stafford and District Spastic Association TC  
West Bromwich and District Spastics Society

### Regional Officer:

I. C. R. Archibald, 109 Colmore Row, Birmingham 3. Tel.: Central 3162

### Acting Regional Social Worker:

Mrs. M. Hepworth, same address

### Senior Welfare Officer, M.S.A. (Birmingham & Worcestershire areas):

Mrs. N. M. Barrett, 15 Victoria Road, Harborne, Birmingham 17. Tel.: Harborne 3182 and 2458

## SOUTH WALES REGION (including Mon.)

Cardiff and District Spastics Association TC  
Kenfig Hill and District Spastics Society CTO  
Merthyr Tydfil and District Spastics Society  
Monmouthshire Spastics Society  
Pembrokeshire Spastics Society  
Pontypridd and District Group TC  
Swansea and District Spastics Assoc. TECW

### Regional Officer:

B. Kingsley-Davies, 2 Saunders Road, Cardiff.  
Tel.: 29289

### Regional Social Worker:

Miss Davey, same address

## WESTERN REGION

Bath and District Spastics Society  
Bridgwater and District Friends of Spastics Association J  
Bristol Spastics Association CTOV  
Cornish Spastics Society  
Exeter and Torbay Spastics Society J  
Plymouth Spastic (CP) Association COETV  
Weston and District Society for the Spastic and Mentally Handicapped I  
Yeovil and District Spastics Welfare Society

### Regional Office:

St. John House, 60 Staplegrove Rd., Taunton Somerset. Tel.: 81678

## EAST ANGLIA REGION

Cambridge and District Spastics Society  
Clacton and District Group  
Colchester and District Group  
Essex Group  
Ipswich and East Suffolk Branch TV  
Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Spastics Society  
Lowestoft and N.E. Suffolk Spastics Society  
Norfolk and Norwich Spastic Association  
Peterborough & District Group Spastics Soc. C  
Southend-on-Sea and District Spastics Soc. OC

### Regional Officer:

H. G. Knight, 51 Newnham Road, Cambridge.  
Tel.: 61747

### Regional Social Worker:

Miss H. M. Day, 51 Newnham Rd., Cambridge  
Tel.: 54531

## WESSEX REGION

Andover and District Spastics Society  
Basingstoke and District Spastics Society  
Bournemouth, Poole and District Spastics Society CT  
Cheltenham Spastics Association ETO  
Gloucester and District Spastics Association  
Isle of Wight Spastics Society TI  
Portsmouth and District Spastics Society V  
Salisbury and District Friends of Spastics  
Southampton and District Spastics Association TOWC

Swindon and District Spastic Society F

Winchester and District Spastics Society

### Regional Officer:

Miss C. Mould, 7 St. John Street, Salisbury  
Tel.: 4521  
Mr. R. Jenkinson, same address

## NORTHERN HOME COUNTIES REGION

Bedford and District Branch TOWEC  
Bishop's Stortford and District Group, Herts Spastics Society  
Central Middlesex Spastics Welfare Society V



East Herts Group, Herts Spastics Society  
 East London Spastic Society **H**  
 Epping Forest and District Branch **TO**  
 Friends of Ponds Home  
 Hatfield and District Spastics Society  
 Hemel Hempstead and District Group, Herts Spastics Society  
 Hitchin, Letchworth and Stevenage Spastics Society  
 Ilford, Romford and District Spastics Assoc. **O**  
 Luton, Dunstable and District Spastics Group **TEC**  
 Maidenhead Friends of Spastics Group  
 Oxfordshire Spastics Welfare Society **TOC**  
 Reading and Berkshire Spastics Welfare Soc. **T**  
 Slough and District Spastics Welfare Society  
 South-West Middlesex Group **T**  
 St. Albans and District Group, Herts Spastics Society **T**  
 Walthamstow and District Spastics Society  
 Watford and District Group, Herts Spastics Society **TEOC**  
 Welwyn Garden City and District Group, Herts Spastics Society  
 Wycombe and District Spastics Society **CT**

#### Regional Officer:

R. C. Lemarie, 524 St. Alban's Road, North Watford. Tel.: 41565

#### Regional Social Worker (except Essex):

Miss Ballance, same address. Tel.: 41059

#### SOUTH-EASTERN REGION

Brighton, Hove and District Branch **TOC**  
 Canterbury and Kent Coast Spastics Group  
 Central Surrey Group  
 Croydon and District Spastics Society **TEWC**  
 East Sussex Group **TC**  
 Folkestone Group **H**  
 Horsham, Crawley and District Spastic Society  
 Maidstone Area Spastic Group **OT**  
 Medway Towns Branch **T**  
 North Hants and West Surrey Group **TECO**  
 North Surrey Group **W**  
 North-West Kent Spastics Group **WO**  
 North-West Surrey Group **TEC**  
 South-East Surrey Group **TOC**  
 South-West Surrey Group **TEC**  
 Thanet Group  
 Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Area Group  
 West Kent Spastics Society, Incorporating Bromley and District Spastics Group **W**  
 West Sussex Spastics Group  
 Worthing, Littlehampton & District Spastics Society

#### Regional Officer:

H. J. I. Cunningham, 29b Linkfield Lane, Redhill, Surrey. Tel.: Redhill 3944 and 2250

#### Regional Social Worker:

Mrs. Chinchin, same address

#### LONDON REGION (provisional)

North London Area Association of Parents and Friends of Spastics **T**  
 North-West London Spastics Society **O**  
 South-East London Group **T**  
 South London Group  
 South-West London and District Group

#### Regional Officer:

Mrs. Patricia Latham, 28 Fitzroy Square, London, W.1. Tel.: EUSon 2436/7

#### Jersey Spastics Society

Northern Ireland Council for Orthopaedic Development (Inc.)

#### Chief Regional Officer:

A. M. Frank, M.C., M.A., 12 Park Crescent, London, W.1.

#### Senior Regional Officer:

A. R. M. Edwards, C.B.E., Royal Chambers, Station Parade, Harrogate. Tel.: 69655

#### Development Secretary:

D. Lancaster-Gaye, 12 Park Crescent, London, W.1.

#### Schools and Centres Secretary:

Mrs. C. A. Clifton, 12 Park Crescent, London, W.1.

#### KEY TO LOCAL GROUPS:

**T**—Treatment Available  
**E**—Education  
**O**—Occupational Centre  
**W**—Work Centre  
**H**—Holiday Home  
**C**—Child Care  
**R**—Residential Centre

## SUBSCRIPTION FORM

THE EDITOR, 'SPASTICS NEWS' 12 PARK CRESCENT, LONDON, W.1

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